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OPERATION HOMECOMING. VOLUME III.  
SUMMARY

Gary C. Haley, et al

INCO, Incorporated

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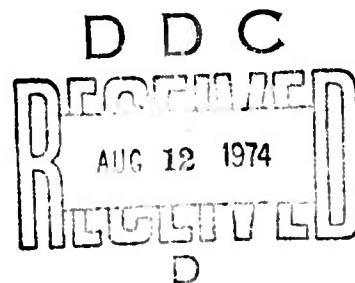
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**OPERATION HOMECOMING  
Volume III - Summary**

**Gary C. Haley  
Brian T. Forbes  
George W. Hoppe**

**INCO, Incorporated**

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## PREFACE

The OPERATION HOMECOMING ADP Support System was developed and implemented by INCO, Incorporated, 7655 Old Springhouse Road, McLean, Virginia, under guidance received from the Department of Defense, Defense Intelligence Agency, United States Air Force, Rome Air Development Center, and the 7602 Air Intelligence Group.

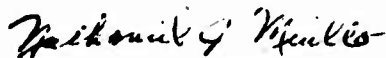
This is the Final Report under Contract F30602-73-C-0087, Job Order Number IDHS0106, for Rome Air Development Center, Griffiss Air Force Base, New York. Mr. Nathaniel J. Miullo (IRDA) was the RADC Project Engineer.

The direct assistance rendered to project personnel of INCO by individuals assigned to the above organizations contributed significantly to the overall success achieved when the system was activated for operational use. Mr. Claude Watkins of the 7602 AIG and Mr. Murray Burke of RADC must be singled out for their individual contributions. Their technical advice was of incalculable value to the success of the program.

This report has been reviewed by the RADC Information Office (OI) and is releasable to the National Technical Information Service (NTIS).

This technical report has been reviewed and is approved.

APPROVED:



NATHANIEL J. MIULLO  
Project Engineer  
Intel Data Handling Branch

APPROVED:



HOWARD DAVIS  
Technical Director  
Intel & Recon Division

FOR THE COMMANDER:



CARLO P. CROCETTI  
Chief, Plans Office

## PREFACE

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## SECTION I

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1. PURPOSE

This report has been prepared by INCO, INC. to supplement the information contained in the Systems Manual (Vol. I) and the Users Manual (Vol. II) on the automated data processing developed by INCO to support OPERATION HOMECOMING. It provides a brief synopsis of the evolution of the system, along with a concise description of the major system components and the function of each. This document addresses the development and implementation of the system, with emphasis placed on a critical look at the lessons which were learned during and after the release of prisoners by the North Vietnamese.

The technical aspects of the system are detailed in the Systems Manual (Vol. I). It provides the programmers and computer operators with specific instruction on how the automated portions of the system operate. The Users Manual (Vol. II) covers the instructions for collection and preparation of data for input into the computer. In addition, it contains information on system outputs that are available and how to request a specific retrieval.

#### 2. BACKGROUND

The Office of the Secretary of Defense, in June 1969, published a memorandum establishing the policy for processing returned prisoners of war. It stated that the technical direction and coordination of Service requirements concerning intelligence debriefings would emanate from the Director, Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA). The program grew in scope over the next several years and it became increasingly apparent that a very large volume of data would become available concerning the period from shootdown to repatriation of each prisoner. In addition, the repatriated personnel would have considerable information about others who were not released by the North Vietnamese or who had died in captivity. The Air Force recognized the need for establishing a highly organized approach in collecting specific elements of information on various aspects of confinement and information which would be helpful in determining the status of those PW/MIAs who were not repatriated. In July 1971, an unsolicited proposal by INCO, INC. resulted in the award of a contract to conduct a systems design study. This study was to identify the Air Staff information requirements, determine the feasibility of applying automated data processing techniques for handling the anticipated large volume of data and develop an implementation plan for the provision of automated support for OPERATION HOMECOMING.\*

After the completion of the system design study in August 1971, a contract was awarded to INCO, INC. to develop an ADP support system for OPERATION HOMECOMING. This effort consisted primarily of the establishment

\* Formerly designated as EGRESS RECAP.



of a data base from existing machine-readable files at DIA, the Air Force Personnel Center, and DOD. The NMCS Information Processing System (NIPS) was to be used for structuring and manipulation of the data to permit maintenance of the data base and the preparation of output reports. Visits to CONUS hospital bases were made to assess the adequacy of facilities, communications and keypunching equipment and to brief base personnel in the procedures to be used in transmitting data from the base to the AFOC. Computer outputs were designed and produced to support pre-release planning activities including the assignment of PWs to CONUS hospitals based on home of record, next-of-kin address, etc.

As development of the system progressed and the training of Air Force personnel designated to conduct the debriefings was well underway, DOD, in June 1972, directed that the system be modified to provide support to all Services. The Air Force was designated as executive agent and DIA as overall manager for the Services. The Services all agreed to participate in the segments of the system which were designed to collect data relating to the status of the non-returnees. However, each service desired to retain control of its own personnel debriefings due to the potential sensitivity of information. The necessary modifications to the system to accommodate all services were started immediately by INCO, INC. personnel. These modifications and the required additional training were completed almost simultaneously with the first release of prisoners. The ADP Support System received its initial operational test in September 1972 when the data collection formats and procedures were used during the debriefing of Major Elias at Maxwell AFB, Alabama. The final operational testing was completed in February 1973 using live data arriving from Southeast Asia.

During and after the release, the system produced numerous output reports which are described in detail in the Users Manual. These reports consisted of a series of computer printouts summarizing casualty data which were developed in conjunction with DIA and the Military Services prior to implementation of the system in February 1973. In addition, a host of special reports were created during and after the release.

### 3. DESIGN STUDY

The initial design study conducted by INCO, INC., in July-August 1971 with the assistance of Air Force personnel of the 7602 Air Intelligence Group (formerly the 1127 Field Activities Group) was concerned with developing a capability to process information provided by the returning prisoners of war so as to permit correlation of all relevant data from a number of sources accurately and in a minimum time frame. The system was conceived as a two phase effort, first to achieve an Interim Operational Capability (IOC) and then to move on to a Complete Operational Capability (COC). The IOC was to be implemented in approximately sixty days by utilizing the existing National Information Processing System (NIPS) as the data management system and also the Air Force Operation Center Computer. Early planning also considered the potential of the Data Central System's capability for a full text file handling. The subsequent non-availability of Data Central at the AFOC forced reliance

upon a structured file system and NIPS as the most expedient means of achieving an operational capability. The structured file concept for input, manipulation and output of the data was used for the remainder of the development cycle and throughout the implementation phase.

a. Air Staff Requirements

Members of the Air Staff were solicited for advice as to the type of data they needed to perform their respective tasks in support of OPERATION HOMECOMING and any future research activities. These requirements were cataloged, screened and analyzed in order to develop a viable supporting data base. During this period, it was found that there were three distinctly separate areas in which data could be categorized, Pre-Release, Post-Release, and support of future research activities.

The Pre-Release data consisted of information on each known prisoner of war and those listed as missing in action, that would be of material value in identifying a particular individual. It included such elements as physical characteristics, loss coordinates, crew data, unit, rank, and last reported status. A complete breakdown of the pre-release data elements is contained in both the Systems and Users Manuals.

The Post-Release information consists of a set of data elements identified by various Air Staff agencies, covering specific areas of interest about a PW's period of captivity and information he could recall about prisoners of war who were not released. The information concerning the status of other prisoners was considered to be of a highly perishable nature, and therefore was to receive immediate attention in the early phases of debriefings. It was labeled Casualty Information. The data elements of the Casualty Information correlated very closely to the pre-release data contained in the computer data base. The effort was to specifically confirm the status of as many , personnel as possible who were lost in Southeast Asia.

The more detailed information concerning the treatment of each Air Force returnee, from the time of his shootdown until his return, was to be collected after his arrival at a CONUS hospital. The debriefer was to extract specified elements of data from his discussions with a returnee and transmit the data via AUTODIN to the OPERATION HOMECOMING Computer Center as Debriefing Reports (DEREPS). The information contained in these reports was keyed to areas of interest identified earlier by the Air Staff as being of highest interest during the release period which, when obtained from all returned PWs, would satisfy their immediate information needs. The DEREPS covered the following subjects: Shootdown/Capture, Medical Treatment, Mistreatment, Validity of Propaganda, Identification of Enemy Personnel, and Enemy Intelligence Activity. The detailed breakouts of the data elements of each DEREPS can be found in the Users Manual.

In addition to the above highly structured reports, a debriefer could submit data in free text special reports for sensitive information or special interest items that were considered of sufficient importance to require special handling.

In order to capture all that a returnee had to say during debriefings the Air Force utilized tape recorders. A total of 170 recorders were distributed among the Air Force debriefers for this purpose. After completion of the debriefings, the audio tapes of the debriefings were to be transcribed into hardcopy, indexed and microfilmed for ease of access during any future research activities.

#### 4. AIR FORCE SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT

The uncertainties of when a prisoner release would occur and how many Air Force personnel would be released at any one time dictated an incremental approach for development of the system. The system had to be capable of becoming operational to at least some level of data handling capacity at any time during its development.

The initial effort was directed toward determining the Air Staff requirements. This was accomplished by direct contact with knowledgeable Air Staff personnel who provided the foundation on which the requirements for the OPERATION HOMECOMING Automated Data Processing capability was developed. Consideration was given to immediate and deferrable needs in order to facilitate fulfilling urgent requests for data and to eventually support research programs. In addition, a feasibility study was made to determine the practicability of developing an ADP support system. The files that would constitute the data base were identified and the configuration of the pre-release data base took place, as did the establishment of reporting and training requirements necessary to insure an effective overall program.

The second period was directed toward accomplishing the actual development of the computer programs and the performance of in-depth investigation of support requirements for future research. This second period was divided into three phases:

- Phase I     Development of an Initial Operational Capability (IOC) to satisfy the most important Air Staff requirements in the shortest possible period of time.
- Phase II    Development of the Complete Operational Capability (COC) to satisfy all the short term Air Staff requirements.
- Phase III   Conducting an in-depth investigation and the development of techniques to satisfy the future research requirements.

##### a. Interim Operational Capability

In order to provide an ADP support capability at the least possible cost to the government and be operational in a minimum

time frame, the implementation plan tasked the Headquarters USAF Operations Center to provide the necessary computer support. The National Information Processing System (NIPS) was selected as the data management system. The Phase I effort was specifically aimed at providing support in the determination of the status of PW/MIAs not returned to U.S. control. Of all the Air Staff and DOD requirements, this was considered to be the most urgent. The ADP support for status determination was designed and implemented two months after the start of the contract.

A pre-release data base was designed and built to include only those data necessary to support the status determination requirement. Reporting formats prepared on pre-printed message forms were developed and disseminated to the Southeast Asia (SEA) and European debriefing facilities for preparation by debriefers and transmission on teletype to the AFOC in the Pentagon. Transcribers were trained to extract data from the messages and code this information on specially designed forms in preparation for keypunch and computer entry. Output reports that would best satisfy the status determination procedures were also designed and developed. In addition, all the related Assembly Language Coding (ALC) and NIPS macro programs employed to build and update the data base were created and tested. Details concerning this phase of the system are available in the Users and Systems Manuals.

b. Complete Operational Capability

The Phase II or Complete Operational Capability was aimed at satisfying all the Air Staff's short term requirements where ADP could be applied. This capability was essentially an expansion of the Phase I or Initial Operational Capability and included the short term requirements related to the PW's shootdown, capture, confinement chronology and other experiences while in captivity. This phase of the project required both an expansion of the pre-release data base to include additional data elements and the ability to input debriefing reports (DEREPS). These reports were generated at ten CONUS hospital facilities and transmitted via AUTODIN to the AFOC in the Pentagon for entry into the computer. The DEREPS were designed to permit a debriefer without a computer background to extract pertinent information from a debriefing and transcribe it on the DERE form for subsequent keypunching and transmission via AUTODIN to the AFOC. At the computer facility, a preprocessor program was developed to provide for editing and reformatting of the AUTODIN card input into an acceptable NIPS input transaction for file update processing. Program design and development was accomplished for processing the new data elements, for file building, and update of DERE materials. Air Force debriefers were given training to complete the DERE forms. Details concerning the system as implemented in February 1973, are contained in the Users Manual.

c. Research Capability

The third phase of the project was aimed at developing a research facility to support Air Staff's future analytical requirements. In order to insure a complete coverage of all the information that returnees had to impart during debriefings, the Air Force Planned to tape record each debriefing session. These tapes would contain a wealth of information that could be of paramount interest to analysts in many subject areas. The planning with respect to transcribing and indexing this information was addressed early in the development program.

(1) Transcription of Debriefing Audio Tapes

Initially, consideration was given to transcribing the information utilizing IBM Magnetic Tape Selectric Typewriters (MTST), then transferring the information contained on the MTST tapes to standard computer magnetic tape. This would have permitted development of a computer searchable full text file. Two existing software systems, the IBM System/360 Document Processing System (DPS) and the Data Corporation's DATA CENTRAL System, were considered as candidates early in the program. In addition, the application of some form of microfilm was looked into along with an indexing system which would permit retrieval of pre-selected categories of information. Several tests were conducted under controlled conditions to determine the cost effectiveness of accomplishing the transcription of the debriefing material to hardcopy using the MTST. Debriefing tapes of four Air Force returned POWs were used in conducting the evaluation. The results indicated that an extensive number of manhours would be required to create clean copy MTST tapes of all the debriefings. There is a total of 2915 audio tapes which cover the debriefing of 330 Air Force returnees. These tapes contain approximately 3900 total hours of audio. A preliminary screening of the tapes to eliminate transcribing of superfluous information showed that there would be an approximate reduction of 30% in volume. A time/motion study using several secretaries typing a first draft indicated that an average of eight hours was required to produce typed copy of one hour of audio recording, or approximately 19,600 manhours (12 man-years). After editing the drafts, an additional 3,675 manhours of final copy typing would be required to produce a clean MTST tape. The full particulars of this test are attached as Appendix A.

(2) Indexing

The need for an effective indexing system to support research activities was recognized early in the development of support for the researcher who would be interested in

compiling data for analytical work on different aspects of war time captivity. The initial systems documentation recommended that consideration be given to supplementing a standard index with a keyword search capability because it would be extremely difficult and time consuming to develop an all encompassing index in support of an unspecified future research need. The combination of having the verbatim debriefing materials in a computer searchable textual file, well indexed by major subject areas, and supplemented with the ability to access all the textual data in a keyword search mode, appeared to provide the maximum flexibility. Details concerning this recommended approach in support of future research requirements are contained in Appendix B.

### (3) Microfilming For Central Repository

The prisoner of war experience in Southeast Asia has been the most extended in American history. In addition, it encountered extremely diverse conditions of imprisonment which varied from temporary hutsches in the jungles constructed by the Viet Cong in South Vietnam and Pathet Lao in Laos to the established prisons in North Vietnam. The use of our prisoners for political propaganda and as hostages to gain concessions not obtainable on the battlefield was another unique aspect of the SEA PW experience. Researchers and official historians will seek information concerning all facets of this PW experience for many years. The establishment of a centralized repository of hard copy documents on microfilm will facilitate this research through subsequent support of selected organizations such as the Air University, Naval Center for PW Studies, Air Training Command, etc.

The requirement for a centralized repository of hardcopy documents pertaining to the PW experience in SEA is two-fold. The first is the immense volume of transcribed verbatim debriefings of returned Air Force PWs. The second is the large volume of related materials concerning pre-release activities and the individual records of the PW/MIAs. The initial effort of identifying the appropriate pre-release documentation, obtaining copies for microfilming, performing the microfilming and indexing the materials, although a significant effort, would result in major savings of time and effort in the future. It is not absolutely essential that the microfilm data base includes 100% of the pertinent documents although the greater percentage included the more useful it will be, but not being able to achieve a goal of 100% of pertinent documentation should not delay its immediate establishment.

Broad categories of documents to be included within the security classification established in the microfilm data base are as follows:

- o Intelligence debriefing materials, verbatim transcripts, messages, casualty reporting forms, etc.
- o Intelligence Reports including published IR's.
- o Studies including those performed by Intelligence, Operations, etc., an example is the Son Tay Raid document.
- o Computer listings from OSD, PACAF, MACV, AFIN.
- o MPRC data such as DD 1300s on MIAs and AFIN PW folders.
- o Selected materials from Air Staff agency files, including Personnel, SAFOI, Operations, etc.
- o OPERATION HOMECOMING Plans.
- o Maps.

A candidate list of the type of documents concerning prisoners of war is included as Appendix C.

## 5. SYSTEM EXPANSION

On 11 October 1972, in a memorandum for the Secretaries of the Military Departments, Mr. Nutter, the Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Affairs, recognized the need for a Joint Service approach to effectively resolve the status of U.S. personnel missing in Southeast Asia. In the memorandum, the Defense Intelligence Agency was requested to provide technical direction and coordination of the Services' debriefing programs. The Air Force was requested to act as Executive Agent under the management of DIA to provide the necessary modifications to the Air Force ADP support system to accommodate all Services. In addition, the tasking included Inter-Service training and the operation of the support activities.

There was Inter-Service agreement shortly thereafter which established the ground rules for data collection and handling procedures between Services. The OPERATION HOMECOMING System as designed for the Air Force, was developed to accept reports for automated processing from the returnees in three phases; Phase I Recovery Data, Phase II Casualty Data, Phase III Detailed Debriefings. Each Service, however, reserved the right to conduct its own Phase III Detailed Debriefings. All Services agreed to submit all reports developed for the system that addressed casualty information. In addition, they agreed to furnish confinement chronology information on each returnee for entry into the computer support system. The Debriefing Reports (DEREPS) which covered

information acquired during the detailed debriefings, in Phase III, were only to be submitted by the Air Force debriefing officers. The other Services had no provision for providing extracts of the detailed debriefing that could be computer processed.

Expansion of the Air Force OPERATION HOMECOMING System required that computer programs be modified as well as the contents of the data base expanded. Additional research was needed to acquire the pre-release information from the other Services which was necessary to complete the enlarged data base. The types of computer outputs required to support release activities were agreed to in conjunction with the Service components under the auspices of DIA and a set of standard outputs were arrived at prior to the release. To a great extent, most of the above actions were completed or in a state of near completion by the time the initial release occurred in February 1973.

During the same period of time that the computer support system was being expanded to accommodate all the Services, a number of other considerations for system improvement were underway. They consisted of:

- o Design and implementation of a debriefer's resources file, which would permit ready access to the location, availability, and training status of all personnel earmarked for duty as debriefers.
- o Expansion of the data base to include files on:
  - Medical History Data
  - Expanded Post-Release Medical Data
  - Memorial Affairs Data
  - Next-of-Kin Data
  - Selected KIA Personnel Data
- o Development of a test and exercise plan for all facets of the system.

The final configuration of the OPERATION HOMECOMING System that was implemented when the prisoners of war were released is detailed in the Systems and the Users Manuals.

## 6. TRAINING

In the months just prior to the release of prisoners by the government of North Vietnam, an intensive training effort was implemented to assure that personnel who would be involved in the debriefings were fully aware of what was expected of them. The training encompassed all aspects of OPERATION HOMECOMING activities. The training associated with the automated data support was provided by INCO, INC. personnel and was dovetailed into the overall debriefer training. In addition to the debriefer training, classes were conducted to train the transcribers who during the execution of OPERATION HOMECOMING extracted the pertinent data from the input casualty messages, placing it in a machinable format.



To support the training program and provide guidance to personnel who were to participate in the program, a "Debriefers Handbook" was published. This handbook, with a few minor modifications which were found necessary after implementing OPERATION HOMECOMING, is included in the Users Manual, Volume II, of the final project documentation. In addition to the Debriefers Handbook, a set of instructions was developed and distributed to all personnel who underwent the transcriber training. The "Transcribers Handbook" is also included in the Users Manual of the OPERATION HOMECOMING System.

The debriefer training program was conducted at a number of different locations throughout the world and within the CONUS to insure that an adequate number of debriefers was available in Europe and the Far East to support a release in either theater of operation. The ADP Support Training in the overseas locations was directed to the Phase I and Phase II Casualty Information collection. In the CONUS, more emphasis was placed on Phase III detailed debriefings and training of the Air Force debriefers in the preparation of DEREPS. Approximately 500 debriefers had received training prior to the first release in February 1973. Approximately fifty three-day training sessions were required to accomplish the necessary training.

In addition to the formal debriefing training sessions, a special orientation course was conducted to provide personnel who would fill key positions at the CONUS debriefing locations with the necessary background to effectively perform their role during the execution of OPERATION HOMECOMING. Briefings were also conducted to apprise other staff personnel who would be involved in the release.

The transcriber training included personnel from all services who were expected to participate in the extraction of the information received in messages into the proper format for entry into the computer data base. Approximately 60 personnel were trained prior to the POW release in formal training sessions conducted at Fort Belvoir, Virginia; Alexandria, Virginia; and New York City.

## 7. TESTING

The ever-present possibility of having to be ready to implement the ADP Support System at any point in time during the development phase dictated that an incremental approach be followed and that each capability be tested upon its completion. This policy was in effect up to the time the system was implemented to support the first release of prisoners of war. Plans were under way for a complete system integration test, however, they were overtaken by events with the first mass release.

The testing which was accomplished on each operational capability of the system included all the checks normally associated with implementation of a new capability. The programs were checked to assure compatibility with other operational segments of the system. The edit and file updating routines were checked for proper functioning. Each output routine was tested and evaluated to insure that the required information was extracted correctly from the data base and properly formatted.

Prior to the release of the POWs, a test package was assembled to determine if all steps in the submission of DEREPS from the CONUS Air Force hospitals were operational. A test package was provided to each hospital designated to process Air Force returnees. The package contained test data for submission to the Air Force Command Center in the Pentagon via AUTODIN. The test data had to be transcribed onto the specially prepared DEREPS forms (See Users Manual). The data on the DEREPS forms were then keypunched onto data cards in preparation for submission to the AUTODIN communications facility. The communications header information was added by personnel in the communication facility. The test data were then actually transmitted to the Pentagon. This test was completed just prior to the introduction of live data into the system, and proved to be of significant value in minimizing difficulties during OPERATION HOMECOMING.

## SECTION II

### IMPLEMENTATION

#### 1. ACTIVITIES PRIOR TO RELEASE

The prisoner of war release was announced on 24 January 1973. At that time, the ADP support development was about ready to be implemented at a new and more sophisticated level. Most of the computer programming was nearing completion, however, no testing of the new segment had been accomplished. The only tests that had been run were the normal debugging of the new programs. The announcement by the North Vietnamese that a release would occur shortly required a curtailment of further development work. It was necessary to direct all efforts to those actions which were absolutely essential to the successful processing of information gained from the returnees. The interim operational capability scheduled for implementation in February 1973 was made operational and used to process information during the release period. The following project activities were concentrated on between the first announcement of a pending release and when the first release actually took place:

- o Training. The training effort for personnel who had responsibilities with respect to OPERATION HOMECOMING was accelerated.
- o Data Base Expansion. The DOD Next-of-Kin and Killed in Action data were incorporated into the operating system. Next-of-Kin data were acquired from the Navy just prior to the release of POWs; however, due to insufficient time and the extensive time necessary to reformat the data, they were never incorporated into the data base.
- o System Optimization. A number of systems tests and exercises were conducted to optimize operation of the entire system prior to the flow of live data. The DEREK reporting system and the use of AUTODIN to transmit the information was thoroughly checked by transmission of test data from the hospitals.
- o Output Reports. A considerable number of output reports were completed and implemented to support DOD and Air Staff requirements. Meetings were held with potential users to identify specific output requirements, the desired formats, and frequency of production.
- o Debriefing Resource File. An Air Force Debriefing Resources file was designed to maintain the current location of each trained debriefer and his availability status.
- o Input Messages. The DOD requirements concerning the input message formats and addressees were completed and incorporated into the messages. These messages were mass reproduced and

distributed to all activities associated with the data collection in OPERATION HOMECOMING.

- o Transcription Forms. The Transcription Forms used to compile casualty information in the proper format for computer input were revised to align the data sequence with the incoming messages. A number of training sessions were conducted to apprise the personnel selected to perform the extraction of casualty data from the messages to the transcriber forms, and to advise them of last minute changes to operational procedures.
- o Activation of Hospital Debriefing Teams. INCO, INC. was Required to develop and provide a variety of system outputs of pre-release data to the debriefing teams. In addition, several follow-up trips were made to the CONUS hospitals to assure that everything necessary to support the debriefing teams was in place. INCO, INC. also provided at the request of the Air Force, a technical advisor to assist the OPERATION HOMECOMING Debriefing Team Chief at Lackland AFB.

In addition to the activities listed above, INCO, INC. made preparations to provide the following support for the duration of the release period.

- o Around the clock technical and management support of transcription activities.
- o Twenty-four hour operational coverage of computer support at the Air Force Operations Center.
- o Personnel to provide technical assistance at the Arlington Hall and Fort Belvoir Command Posts.
- o Support ad hoc briefings on OPERATION HOMECOMING activities.
- o Develop and process special reports as required.

## 2. ACTIVITIES DURING RELEASE

There were three principal sites of OPERATION HOMECOMING support activities at which INCO, INC. had corporate personnel working. At Fort Belvoir, Virginia, the company provided direct support to the Command Post operated by the 7602 Air Intelligence Group. At the Arlington Hall facility of the Defense Intelligence Agency, INCO provided support both to the Homecoming Intelligence Center (HOMIC) and the transcriber activities which were conducted at the same location. In addition, INCO maintained personnel in the Pentagon at the Air Force operations Center to operate the OPERATION HOMECOMING ADP Support System.

a. Fort Belvoir Support

The Air Force established its primary data filtering operation for OPERATION HOMECOMING at Fort Belvoir, Virginia. The 7602 Air Intelligence Group established a Command Post to handle information relative to returnee Air Force personnel. The 7602 AIG had the facilities and personnel with the necessary background to handle special reports which dealt with particularly sensitive aspects of the debriefings. In addition, the 7602 was primarily responsible for establishing the intelligence gathering aspects of OPERATION HOMECOMING and had been directly associated with the development of the ADP support. Its personnel were thereby provided an excellent background relative to the data processing requirements.

The Command Post at Fort Belvoir was designated to be the principal addressee for all recovery and assessment messages. The original planning was based on a worst case probability that only fragmentary information, on the location of a release and who would be released, would be available prior to a release taking place. This was not the case; a complete list of personnel planned to be released, along with the location of the release point, was made available weeks in advance. The recovery message, therefore, did little more than to verify that a specific individual was picked up and under U.S. control. This information was correlated at the 7602 AIG with hospital and debriefer assignments. The assessment information, during the later releases, was not received soon enough to be processed and forwarded to the hospitals before the returnees themselves arrived at the hospitals. This occurred because processing time at Clark was reduced to an absolute minimum in order to expedite the return of POWs to the CONUS.

The 7602 AIG was also responsible for handling all special reports and other sensitive information concerning Air Force returnees. The data received were evaluated and the non-sensitive information was extracted for computer processing. Special briefings concerning the release were repeatedly conducted for members of the Air Staff and other agencies.

The 7602 Command Post also functioned as the central coordinating point for the resolution of questionable information received in the OPERATION HOMECOMING message traffic. They issued clarifications of instructions to hospital teams for the submission of system inputs to the ADP System, made distribution of output reports to other agencies, and established requirements for additional computer outputs to satisfy newly generated requests for information. These requests were passed to representatives of INCO, INC., located at Fort Belvoir, who wrote the necessary computer programs to create the desired outputs. A complete listing of all computer outputs (approximately one hundred fifty) is provided in the Users Manual. The manual depicts the data element of each output and shows how each of the data listings can be obtained from the system.

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The listings produced by Air Force Data Services computer in the Pentagon were forwarded via courier to Fort Belvoir, for reproduction and distribution. The original listings were reduced on two XEROX 7000 to a 8-1/2 X 11 format. Some of the recurring outputs were also color-coded for ease of identification when in use by the Intelligence Analysts. The color coding was accomplished by printing the reports on tinted paper. These XEROX machines, during the course of OPERATION HOMECOMING, were used to produce a total of 430,000 pages of computer printouts in support of distribution requirements.

b. DIA Support, Arlington Hall

The Defense Intelligence Agency set up its OPERATION HOMECOMING Intelligence Center (HOMIC) at Arlington Hall. It was operated on a twenty-four hour, three shift schedule. The Intelligence Analysts assigned for duty at the HOMIC were responsible for screening all messages generated by OPERATION HOMECOMING. In addition to performing an intelligence evaluation function, the analyst provided a determination as to what category a reported prisoner of war should be classified when entered into the computer support system. This categorization as Name Known, No-Match, Unknown or Potential Returnee was necessary to support the transcribing activity which was in a room adjacent to the HOMIC. The transcription activity was also conducted on a round-the-clock three shift schedule. Its prime responsibility was to convert the casualty information received in the message traffic into a card format for entry into the computer. The detailed instructions for accomplishing the transcription of data are contained in the Users Manual along with illustrations of each of the forms used by the transcribers.

During the course of OPERATION HOMECOMING, approximately 2900 casualty messages were processed by the Transcribers. Of these, 575 were Confinement Chronologies. This total does not include DEREPS, Recovery and Assessment Messages, or other special reports which were processed in other sectors of OPERATION HOMECOMING support. The volume of message traffic flow is depicted in Figure 1. Each message, when received at the HOMIC was first examined by an Intelligence Analyst. The analyst, in addition to his normal intelligence functions, was required to annotate each name that appeared in the text with the correct Recognition Identification Number (RECID). In the event a name could not be positively identified with a specific individual for any reason, it was annotated as a "No-Match". In the event that only a physical description was available, with no name attached, the data were identified as "Unknown". Personnel identified in a message who were on the returnee list and under U.S. control were deleted. Information concerning personnel identified in a message as on the NVN to be returned list, but not under U.S. control, was marked for transcription as second priority. This permitted a concentration of effort on getting information on the status of the MIAs into the processing

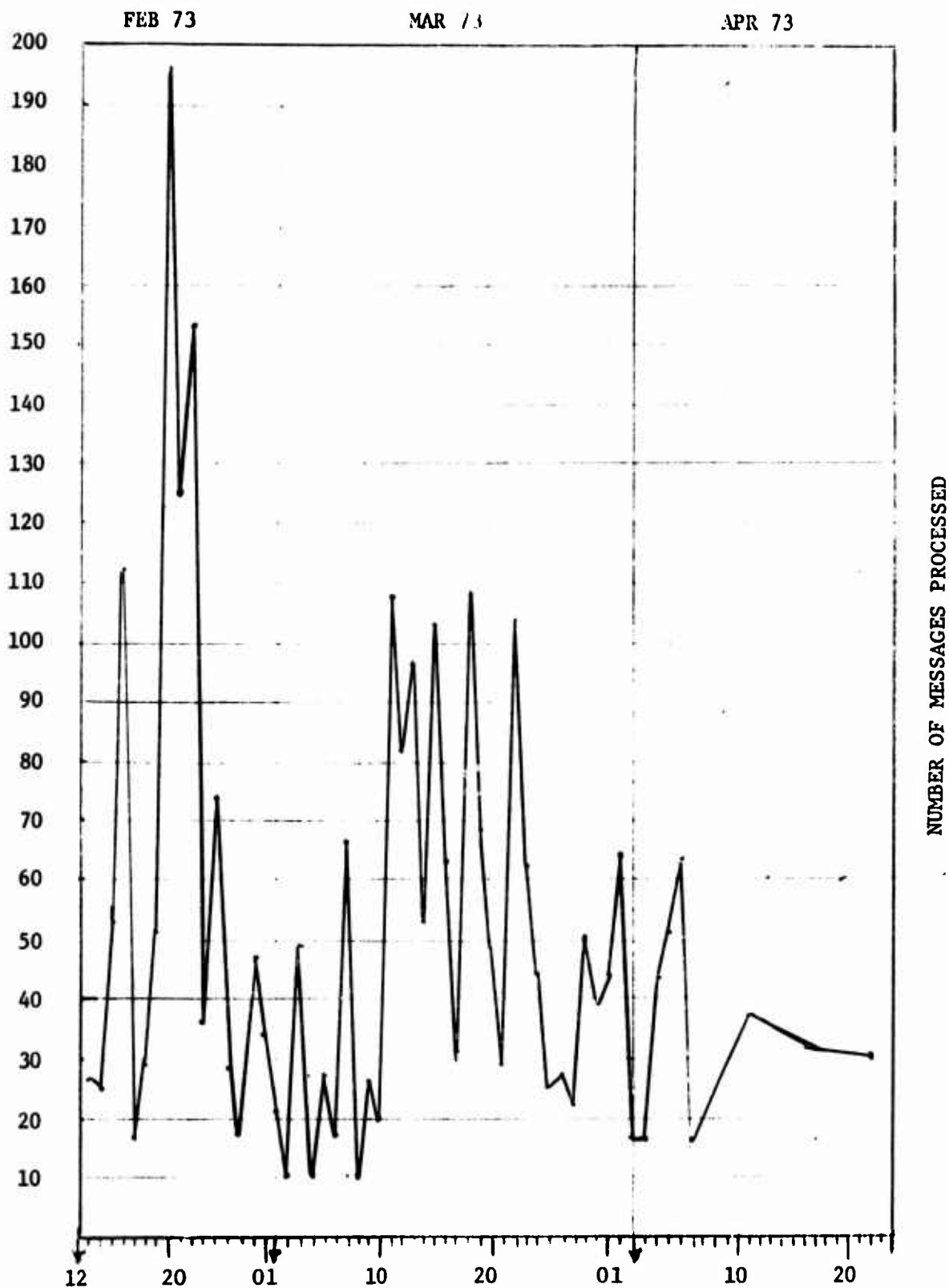


Figure 1, Casualty Message Traffic.



system so that action could be immediately started in an attempt to resolve the "No-Matches" and "Unknown". The data received about personnel that were expected to be released at some later date were considered less critical and were transcribed for input during lulls in traffic between releases. The details concerning each step in the transcription process can be found in the Users Manual.

The transcription of data from the messages on to the special forms developed for the operation was a relatively simple process and little or no delay was encountered during the entire cycle of OPERATION HOMECOMING. The time expended on a message by a transcriber was directly proportional to the amount of information within the message. The time required for transcription varied from a few minutes to as much as six to eight hours per message. A total of approximately 34,000 man-hours were expended on the transcription effort alone.

Some difficulty was encountered because of lack of consistency in spelling the names of confinement locations. It was necessary after the first release to establish a master list of camp names to be used to standardize inputs especially for the confinement chronology listings. Without a standard spelling of each reported location, it would have been impossible to group information on particular camps. In addition, the control in the numbering of Unidentified Personnel Reports was to be accomplished by each debriefer. This was not done in the first few releases and it caused some confusion in relating data submitted at different times on the same Unknown.

The completed Transcription Forms were sent to the Data Services Key punch Facility in the Pentagon after being proof-read at DIA. On occasions when the Data Services facility was overloaded, the DIA key punch operation at Arlington Hall was used to provide support. Between the two key punch facilities, approximately 85,000 data cards were punched in support of casualty data.

Prior to entry of the casualty data into the computer, a series of special editing listings were produced. Personnel of the INCO support group used these listings to perform an edit of the data to insure that no key punch errors were introduced, and as a double check of the transcription effort. Although this operation did introduce a slight delay in entering data into the computer, it helped immeasurably to prevent erroneous information from getting into the data base. As a final check, the output reports were again given a cursory check prior to being distributed.

#### c. Activities at the Pentagon

The Air Force Command and Control computer located in the Air Force Operations Center in the Pentagon was designated early in the OPERATION HOMECOMING development program as the computer system

which was to provide prime support. The Air Force Data Services Computer, also in the Pentagon, was identified to provide a back-up capability in the event of a catastrophic failure. Both systems are IBM 360 series; however, the Operations Center computer is a Model 50 and the Data Services computer is a Model 75. The limits on core allocation due to fixed partition operation on the Operations Center IBM 360/50, became too restrictive when the initial traffic began to arrive from Clark AFB. The continued use of the IBM 360/50 would have required almost complete dedication of the Operations Center computer to OPERATION HOMECOMING. Therefore, it was decided that the provisions which had been instituted earlier to the use of the Data Services Center's IBM 360/75 be exercised. The continued use of the Operations Center computer as the primary system would have seriously degraded the other Command and Control functions carried by the system. The Data Services Computer also had the advantage of operating in a multiple variable task (MVT) environment which provides considerably more flexibility in the handling of updates to the OPERATION HOMECOMING Data Base. The change-over to the Data Services system was completed in about 48 hours.

During the entire period of OPERATION HOMECOMING, INCO, INC. maintained approximately a twenty-hour per day coverage with programmers and systems analysts working in the Air Force Operations Center. Their principal tasks were data base maintenance, producing required outputs, performing editorial functions, and giving direct support to OPERATION HOMECOMING staff personnel assigned to the Operations Center.

#### (1) Data Base Maintenance

The data base updates were received by the INCO, INC. personnel in the Air Force Operations Center on punched data cards. These cards were immediately listed in several different sequences to facilitate a rapid editing of the data. The file maintenance computer program used to produce these listings took approximately twenty minutes of computer time to run. The primary emphasis was placed on checking those data elements which would cause an update rejection by the computer. The analyst also kept alert for other obvious data errors such as missing data, misspelled names, and overlapping dates in the Confinement Chronology. When all the data card errors were corrected, the cards were submitted for entry into the system. An average of about eight hours elapsed between receipt of the data cards in the Operations Center and the time they were placed in the system to update the data base.

The DEREK processing was handled in much the same manner. A preliminary machine procedure to edit the cards was run first. These runs were examined and the erroneous cards corrected. Then the DEREK file maintenance procedure was run. The resultant listing from the DEREK program, approximately 30 minutes

run time, was examined again for errors which could be corrected for the next processing cycle. Approximately 300,000 DEREK data cards were processed. Figure 2 depicts the volume of DEREK traffic received.

Special one-time file maintenance programs were written as needed to clean up any erroneous material which had inadvertently entered the data base. This constant surveillance of the file kept the material generated, during and after the prisoners' release, both current and correct.

## (2) Outputs

Just prior to and during the release of the Prisoners of War, INCO, INC. personnel manned the Air Force HOMECOMING Command Post in the Air Force Operations Center. When the North Vietnamese and Viet Cong in Paris released the list of names of servicemen to be released, INCO, INC. personnel worked hand-in-hand with Air Force Intelligence to transcribe the names and enter them into the HOMECOMING Data Base. Computer listings of those to be released in sequence by shootdown date, service, and then shootdown date, by hospital assignment, etc., were compiled and reproduced within minutes after the names had been entered into the data base.

When the North Vietnamese and Viet Cong released the names of those to be released just prior to each release increment, INCO, INC. personnel were again processing this information. Computer reports listing the returnees to be in the various release increments in the different sequences were usually published and distributed up to twenty-four hours prior to the time of those releases.

During the Phase II debriefing at Clark AFB, P.I., a brief assessment of the returnee's mental and physical condition was made by his debriefer. Comments pertaining to the returnee's stage of debriefing, his willingness to cooperate, etc., were also given and included in an Assessment Report. The report was transmitted to the Command Posts both at the Pentagon and at Fort Belvoir.

These reports were transcribed and keypunched at Fort Belvoir and sent by courier to the Pentagon. INCO, INC. personnel entered these data into the HOMECOMING data base and produced AUTODIN messages that were then transmitted to the CONUS hospital teams to which the respective returnees were assigned.

INCO, INC. maintained a close working relationship with the Air Force personnel manning the Air Force HOMECOMING Command Post. INCO, INC. produced many computer listings for those personnel for distribution throughout the Air Force and the other Services.

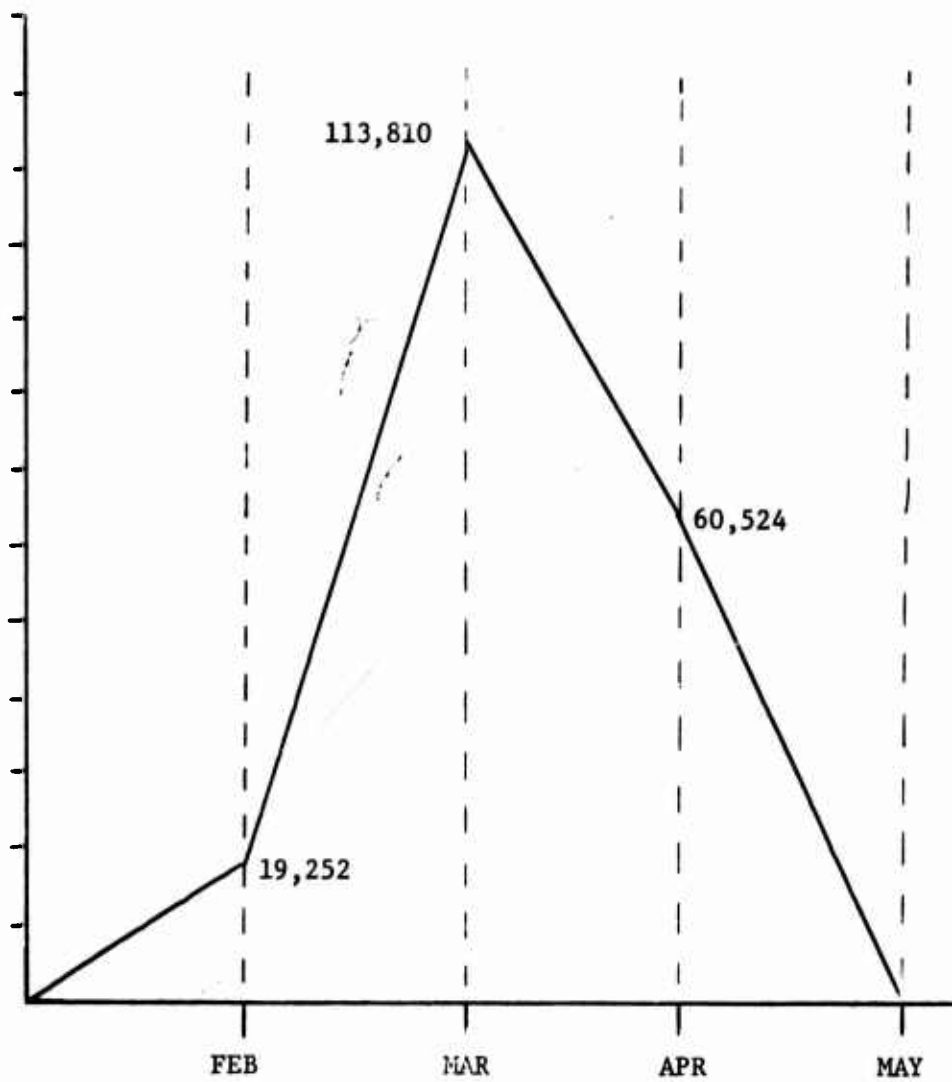
**DATA CARDS**

130,000

100,000

50,000

10,000



**Figure 2. (U) DERE Traffic Volume.**

In addition to producing Assessment Reports and computer listings of personnel released or personnel to be released, the HOMECOMING data base was maintaining casualty related data as reported by the returnees. At first, reports listing all known non-returnees, their condition, last known status, etc., were produced daily. Other daily reports included the Unknown and No-Match non-returnee reports. These three reports were later modified to include all comments reported in conjunction with the names, status, etc., reported on the non-returnees. As time progressed, the data accumulated became so voluminous that the reports were produced three times per week, then twice per week, and later once per week.

The data pertaining to the Unknowns and No-Matches reported by the various returnees were also formatted into "feedback" reports. These data were transmitted to the CONUS hospitals for the purpose of having the returnees review the data for accuracy and completeness. The delay caused by the tremendous backlog of data requiring keypunching combined with the returnees' short stay at Clark AFB and relatively short debriefing stay at the CONUS hospitals, significantly reduced the effectiveness of these reports.

As the debriefings progressed, data pertaining to the returnee's confinement began to be collected. These data were formatted into two reports that were used during the release period for casualty clarification. The first report, Confinement Chronology Summary, listed all returnees by camp name and then by dates of confinement. This report was used to match returnees with certain camps at certain times in order to clarify the identity of an unknown or no-match who was seen at the same camp during the same time frame. The other report, Confinement Chronology Report, listed all returnees by name and all the camps at which that returnee was confined, chronologically by date of confinement. This report described physical layout of the camps, size of the camp, number of buildings, etc., and included detailed comments pertaining to the location of the camp and any significant events that the returnee may have reported.

Following the casualty and confinement chronology phases of debriefing the returnees were given the opportunity to relate their experience in the manner and sequence they preferred.

The data that were gleaned from these "unstructured" debriefing sessions were distributed primarily in the form of special reports and DEREPS. The special reports covered various areas of interest such as E&E training, recommendations for changes in training and equipment, discussions of the Code of

Conduct, reports on the effectiveness of the SROs, etc. The data contained in these reports were not entered into the data base.

The DEREPS, on the other hand, were structured AUTODIN message forms dealing with six major topics; Shootdown, Capture, Enemy Intelligence Activity, Captivity Medical Treatment, Validity of Propaganda, Mistreatment, and Identification of Enemy Personnel. The DEREPS data continued to be transmitted to the Air Force Operations Center at the Pentagon for several weeks after the last release. The data contained in the DEREPS were entered directly into the HOMECOMING data base. These data can be and have been extracted as needed in the form of DEREPS Reports and DEREPS Summary Reports.

### 3. POST RELEASE ACTIVITIES

In the period immediately following the return of the last prisoners to U.S. control, a concerted effort was launched by INCO project personnel to review the entire data base and take the necessary corrective action to eliminate as many deficiencies as possible. This was not possible during the release since the key emphasis was being placed on getting the raw data into the system as rapidly as possible.

A number of special actions took place. A requirement to provide support to the Joint Casualty Resolution Center (JCRC) developed into building a special summary file of all first hand information on non-returnees which could be of value in locating death/burial sites. This file was built and the data forwarded to the JCRC, as well as to all Service Casualty Divisions. The work was accomplished by INCO, INC. and Air Force Reserve Officers on temporary summer active duty assignments. More than 1500 manhours were expended to conduct the research of all the information available and format it properly for entry into the computer.

There were also requests for information relating to Confinement Chronology which prompted a screening and accelerated clean-up of that file. Each entry was carefully screened to assure that the proper dates and locations were entered into the data base. It was found that approximately fifty Confinement Chronologies had to be added to the file to make it complete. All the missing Air Force Confinement Chronologies were obtained and entered into the system. There were twenty others which were not made available. These consisted of four (4) Marine; two (2) Army; three (3) Navy; and eleven (11) Civilians Confinement Chronologies. After the file was cleaned up, listings were made and forwarded to all agencies having a need for the data.

In the post release period, work also continued in providing support to DIA in their efforts to resolve "No-Matches" and "Unknowns" that were entered into the system. At the time this report was compiled, there were still 476 "Unknowns" and 211 "No-Matches" which had not been clarified.

After all the debriefings were completed at the CONUS hospitals, a complete accounting was made to determine if any DEREPS were missing. The

survey revealed that about 1000 to 1100 DEREPS from Scott AFB were never received at the Air Force Operations Center and that an additional 600 to 700 from other locations failed to process correctly for various reasons. The missing DEREPS were recovered and entered into the system, thereby requiring the keypunching of approximately 20,000 cards. In order to correct the discrepancies found in the other DEREPS, an additional 12,000 cards had to be punched. Although the above figures appear to be high for messages received with errors, they represent only a small percentage (5%) of all the DEREPS which arrived at the Operations Center. A total of approximately 12,000 DEREPS were processed through the AUTODIN circuits.

The final report was prepared to furnish a brief summary of what transpired during the design, development, and implementation of the ADP Support for which INCO, INC. was responsible to produce. It highlights only those items which were considered of significant interest, excluding the technical details contained in the Systems Manual and the Users Manual, Volumes I and II respectively, associated with this report.

To give the reader an opportunity to develop a feeling of the total effort expended by INCO, INC., a listing has been attached to this report as Appendix D. This listing provides a breakout of the numerous support activities in which INCO, INC. personnel were engaged beyond the normal development efforts of programming, debugging and documentation. The activities on the listing are broken out as follows:

- o Training/Briefings
- o Computer Programs/Files
- o Pre-Release Computer Support
- o Release Computer Support
- o Post-Release Computer Reports
- o Post-Release and Research Support
- o Miscellaneous Support

### SECTION III

#### CONCLUSIONS

The deep involvement of INCO, INC. personnel in the design, development and implementation of the ADP Support System for OPERATION HOMECOMING from its inception has lead to several conclusions being formulated regarding the system in retrospect. These conclusions are:

- o The ADP Support in general appeared to function relatively well for the duration of the prisoner release except for a few brief periods during the first release when a series of minor problems were encountered. It was found during the first few days of operation that the computer supporting the AFOC could not handle the large volume of OPERATION HOMECOMING data without seriously jeopardizing its other operational missions responsibilities. Therefore, it became necessary to move the bulk of the OPERATION HOMECOMING activity to the backup computer in the Air Force Data Services Center. This, coupled with the fact that some system testing still had to be completed during the first release, caused some difficulty. Although these problems were rectified in the first few days, it emphasized the need to periodically test and exercise a computer support system to the maximum extent during an incremental development. This applies primarily when the date for implementation is unknown and totally controlled from outside the development environment. As each plateau of development is reached, time must be allocated to permit the total system to be tested and fully exercised.
- o The OPERATION HOMECOMING Support System, after being designated as a Service-wide DOD system, should have been implemented totally by all the Military Services. The partial support rendered to the system degraded the short term and future research potential of the system. The only CONUS debriefing material in the data base is that which was derived from Air Force returnees.
- o The OPERATION HOMECOMING System was developed to operate in a NIPS environment in order to expedite its development. Consideration should be given to maintaining an operational support capability and converting the present system so as to be compatible with the WWMCCS Data Management System. This would give all Services the ability to support research projects related to the data compiled in OPERATION HOMECOMING.
- o The data input developed for extracting key elements of information from the lengthy CONUS debriefings, which utilized AUTODIN, appeared to be considerably more efficient than the textual message input used for casualty data. The DEREPI input which provided a punched card at the AUTODIN terminal in the



Air Force Operations Center in the Pentagon, significantly reduced the manual data processing time before its entry into the computer. When the flow of casualty data was at its peak, the delays encountered for keypunching extended out to several days, using a centralized facility. It appears that it would have been more efficient to have established a reporting system for casualty data similar to that for the DEREK. In all likelihood, this would also have reduced the numerous manhours which were devoted to editing the casualty inputs before each update. The concept of source data automation, in which data is transmitted from the source in a format capable of being directly entered into a computer appears to be a valid concept.

- o The system was designed to be used to assist in short range research to determine the identity of individuals on which only sketchy information was available. This capability was never exercised to any extent during or after the release, yet there are still 476 "Unknown" and 211 "No-Matches" unresolved in the data base.
- o Based on the experience gained during the development and implementation of the OPERATION HOMECOMING System, it has become very evident that a wealth of data on numerous aspects of confinement, survival, and equipment quality have been recorded. The computer data base consists of approximately 80 million recoverable characters of data. In addition, the verbatim transcripts of confinement history of Air Force personnel, when totally transcribed will consist of approximately 100,000 pages of information. At no time, after any previous conflict in which U.S. personnel were engaged, has there been such a comprehensive effort to collect, organize and compile information concerning personnel who were captured. The data must now be indexed and be made readily usable for future research. Selected data from previous conflicts should be merged with data from Southeast Asia in a central repository to support those research activities. Without a designated facility to handle these types of data, the newly acquired knowledge relative to survival in enemy hands will end up buried in the archives.

## SECTION IV

### RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations are offered for consideration concerning the OPERATION HOMECOMING ADP Support System and the support of future research activities.

- o Central Repository. The information derived from debriefing returnees from Southeast Asia prisoner of war camps plus the background material related to the development and execution of OPERATION HOMECOMING, should be gathered into a single location to facilitate future research efforts. This central repository should be a Joint Service venture; however, if the Air Force establishes its own facility, it should acquire all of the CONUS debriefing data from the other Services. It is essential that all the material available be concentrated at one location to effectively support research for developing improved survival training programs, confinement survival techniques, or equipment design criteria. The repository, if established unilaterally by the Air Force, should be located at the Air University to permit the student body to participate in research activities.
- o Develop Index. In conjunction with the establishment of a Central Repository all material related to the prisoners of war should be indexed in sufficient detail to permit access to any segment of information. The index should be developed to provide a research analyst with a computer supported remote terminal capable of recovering and displaying abstracts as well as microfilmed copies of textual and other material. The system should be capable of providing an analyst with a rapid means of search for specific data. It must also be designed with enough flexibility to permit maximum growth as new material is added to the central repository.
- o Keyword Search. Textual data contained in the detailed transcripts of debriefings should be converted into a computer searchable form. This would permit the development of a keyword search that would be of immeasurable value in saving countless man-hours of time which a highly skilled research analyst would normally have to devote to finding the data he is after. The analyst could direct his effort toward solving the problem at hand while the computer performs the mundane task of locating all the potentially related data.
- o Maintain Operational Capability. The OPERATION HOMECOMING ADP Support System should be maintained in the active inventory and not be cast aside as a one-time effort. The system should be converted to be operable in the WWMCCS environment. Work should continue on system refinement to make it compatible with

other HUMIT requirements so as to establish a day-to-day operational usage of the system. The current system would provide an ideal base line for development of automated support in HUMIT activities.

- o JCRC Support. The Joint Casualty Resolution Center will require a considerable amount of support over an extended period of time in performing its mission. Some of the information required by the JCRC in locating the remains of non-returnees is buried within the data associated with OPERATION HOMECOMING. Additional information of value may still be in the data obtained from the CONUS debriefings and in the possession of the returnees. Other significant information data could be associated with more than 700 entries in the data base classified as unknowns and no-matches. It appears that it would be highly desirable to resolve all the unknown and no-match entries at the earliest date practicable. In addition, the OPERATION HOMECOMING ADP Support System should be installed in the JCRC ADP Support System to give that organization full access to any segment of the current data base.
- o DEREP Files. The DEREK Files now contain only data relative to the Air Force returnees' CONUS debriefings. The file has the potential of being an excellent research aid but requires some additional work on it. Current research has revealed that some of the information contained in the file is not totally accurate. In the process of forwarding information, the debriefer, in some cases, misinterpreted what a returnee had said on a particular subject, or he failed to recognize a salient point in the debriefing and did not include the information in a DEREK. In addition, the file lacks data from the other Services. It appears that it would be of considerable value in support of research activities to rectify the above deficiencies in the DEREK Files.
- o Research Questionnaires. During the post-recovery period, research analysts have already levied requirements on the returnees to respond to questionnaires concerning a number of different subjects. It would appear that if this type of research tool becomes utilized more frequently the data gathered should be placed in a format which would permit recovery and analysis utilizing automated support techniques. The system used for processing the information should also be compatible with the OPERATION HOMECOMING data base so that the analyst has access to all related data through one system.

**APPENDIX A**

**DEBRIEFING AUDIO TAPE  
TRANSCRIPTION TEST**

## APPENDIX A

### DEBRIEFING AUDIO TAPE TRANSCRIPTION TEST

#### 1. (U) TRANSCRIPTION STATISTICS

TYPING	First draft will probably average 7 to 8 hours for 1 hour of audio.
AUDIO TAPES	For 330 returnees, there are 2900 audio tapes or approximately 3900 total hours of audio. Of this, approximately 400 hours is casualty information, resulting in 3500 hours for transcription.
SCREENING	It will require approximately one-half of the total audio hours for an analyst to screen tapes for typing--approximately 1750 screening hours (approximately one man-year).
INDEXING/ EDITING	The indexing used in the test required little more time than the editing alone. Thus, editing and indexing could be accomplished in approximately 1-1/2 hours per 1 hour of audio. Total of 3675 hours to edit and index (2+ man-years).
RESULTANT TYPING	After screening, approximately 70%, or 2450 hours, of original audio will need to be typed. At an 8 to 1 ratio, this is 19600 typing hours for first draft, or approximately 12 man-years.
FINAL TYPING	It will require approximately 1-1/2 hours to 1 hour of audio for final typing of edited first draft. This is a total of 3675 typing hours for final copy.
TAPE QUALITY	Tape quality varies not only from debriefer to debriefer, but from hospital to hospital. For example, the Andrews tapes as a group are of poor quality due to jet aircraft noise, telephones ringing, and doctor calls. Lackland tapes are generally good because of the distance from Kelly and no doctor calls. There are exceptions. When the Kelly landing pattern required aircraft on downwind to fly in close proximity of the hospital, the aircraft noise may dominate. The above observations are made from listening to approximately 60 tapes, of which 30% were of poor quality.

## 2. SCREENING AND TRANSCRIPTION TIME FACTORS

In order to obtain data concerning the time factors involved in the partial transcription of PW returnee debriefing tapes, the 18 tapes generated by the debriefing of LTCOL James O. Hivner were screened to determine those portions which were to be transcribed. Representative samples of the chosen portions were then transcribed by three transcriber-typists of varying skills and backgrounds.

The portions chosen to be typed were those wherein the following topics were discussed:

Shootdown/Capture	Religious Activities
Evasion and Escape	Code of Conduct
Interrogation	PW Organization
Mistreatment	Leadership
Propaganda/Indoctrination	Medical Treatment/Injuries
Resistance	Training

LTCOL Hivner's tapes were carefully screened, not skimmed, to determine what was to be transcribed. In those tape segments where none of the above topics was discussed, screening consisted of successively skipping and listening briefly every three minutes until one of the topics was discussed, then listening briefly in a similar skipping manner every two minutes until the topic was completed.

The debriefing tapes of Colonels Larson and Bean and of Captain Brudno were also screened, but not transcribed, by another analyst and therefore, with differing factors, as shown below. The analyst relied on the tape index and, in some cases, did not listen to whole tapes because of the subject matter, as recorded by the debriefer. This may account for the higher percentage of tape to be transcribed.

### a. Screening Factors

<u>RETURNEE</u>	<u>NO</u> <u>TAPES</u>	<u>TOTAL TIME</u> <u>LGTH OF</u> <u>TAPES (hrs)</u>	<u>TAPE TIME</u> <u>LGTH TO BE</u> <u>TRANSCRIBED</u> <u>(hrs)</u>	<u>AVERAGE</u> <u>SCREENING</u> <u>TIME PER</u> <u>TAPE (mins)</u>	<u>TOTAL</u> <u>SCREENING</u> <u>TIME (hrs)</u>	<u>% OF TAPE</u> <u>TO BE</u> <u>TRANSCRIBED</u>
Larson	13	14	12	20	4:20	86
Bean	10	9	7.6	20	3:20	85
Brudno	13	16.8	11.4	30	6:30	68
Hivner	18	26	12	55	16:30	46

b. Transcription Factors

Average time required to transcribe 1 hour of selected debriefing tape:

- o Transcriber-Typist A - 4.6 hours
- o Transcriber-Typist B - 5.6 hours
- o Transcriber-Typist C - 8.7 hours

The time factor for the correction editing and minimal indexing of transcriptions has been determined to average out to approximately 1.5 hours for 1 hour of transcribed tape time length.

APPENDIX B

INDEXING



## APPENDIX B

### INDEXING

#### 1. GENERAL

To assure ease of access into the experiences of returned prisoners of war, from time of shootdown and capture to their repatriation, the research activities will require a comprehensive indexing system which is capable of providing maximum coverage in a minimum of time. The problem of locating all related material (associated with a specific request for information) within the large volume of data available (approximately 100,000 pages), requires a detailed cross-referenced index. An effective search of the debriefing materials requires the application of the latest techniques in indexing and the use of automated support. A suggested method of developing a means of searching the debriefing material is covered in this appendix.

#### 2. METHOD OF RECORDING DEBRIEFINGS

In order to collect the maximum amount of information from each debriefing, the Air Force decided to tape record each formal debriefing session. These tapes, over 2900 of them, were generally indexed by the debriefing officers after each debriefing. The debriefer not only had to label each tape, he also had to identify specific start-stop points on the tape of information he submitted in a DEREPS. This resulted in a quasi indexing system which would provide a researcher with the means of identifying a specific tape having information on a particular subject. The locatable subjects were limited, however, to those areas covered by the DEREPS. To assist in the conversion of the audio text to a printed text, the majority of tape recordings were made in stereo. This permits the isolation of the debriefer's voice from that of the returnee in the event of a simultaneous overlay of voices during a conversation.

#### 3. PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH INDEXING

The data concerning each returnee's experiences varies considerably, as does the ordering of information, and the vocabulary used by the individuals to describe various aspects of captivity. In addition, the information recorded in an audio format does not lend itself to automated search techniques. If left in an audio mode, the researcher must listen to data at the rate it was recorded which would be considerably slower than reading or scanning a printed text.

The search through large quantities of data employing techniques which are within the current state of the art requires that at least some portion of the information be searchable in a printed or digital form. Providing the research analyst with a means of readily locating information relevant to his work requires that a comprehensive indexing system be made available to him. It should include all the predictable elements of potential interest, and a well developed cross-referencing system. It

should also provide abstracts covering key elements of information. The construction of such an indexing system would require a considerable expenditure of effort.

a. Data Recovery Requirements

There are two time frames during which research analysts will require access to the debriefing data. During the initial period prime interest will be in the extraction of information which would shed light on the status of non-returnees. The interest area would be relatively narrow requiring a limited index that would be capable of isolating information relating to death, burial, and identification of non-returnees or of any information which could be used to determine the last known status or location of an individual who was not returned to U. S. control. The second period requires comprehensive support of long range research activities and could extend indefinitely into the future. The data request could cover almost any subject, therefore, the use of keyword search techniques is recommended. The index should be developed so as to permit its uninterrupted growth from the time of its initial implementation.

b. Keywords

When attempting to index a well organized hard-copy document covering a limited technical area, the selection of keywords can present a reasonably difficult task. The relationships between various elements developed by the originator of a document may be viewed from an entirely different aspect by the individual developing the index. The research analyst may also view the relationship between elements from still another vantage point, that of his particular professional interest. The fact that the material gathered during the debriefing will cover an extremely wide range of subjects will add to the complexity of developing an all-inclusive index. The selection of meaningful keywords that will effectively support future research efforts of analysts will require that considerable thought be given to the selection of proper terms and that a complete thesaurus be built.

The initial selection of keywords should concentrate on broad subject areas having a high probability of being used during the course of a debriefing. Some of these areas of prime interest have already been identified to some extent in the information transmitted via DEREPS. To facilitate an automated keyword search to support attempts to recover information on audio tapes, a controlled abstract or summary of the information contained on each audio tape should be made. These abstracts should contain, in addition to the tape identification, a listing of keywords, which, in broad terms, identifies the subjects recorded on each tape reel during a debriefing session. Digitizing this controlled abstract or summary would permit a rapid automated search for specific

subjects covered during all the debriefings and would form the base line for establishing a more sophisticated indexing system to support in-depth research activities. A typical abstract could be as simple as:

Returnee Identification Number	- P011
Returnee Name	- Polak
Tape Number	- 004
Date of Recording	- 72325
1st Keyword and start position on tape	- Shootdown 020
2nd Keyword and start position on tape	- Bailout 038
3rd Keyword and start position on tape	- Capture 047

Note: In the event a subject is addressed several times on a single tape the keyword should be repeated with the new start position.

The creation of controlled abstracts in which there is a high utilization of pre-selected keywords serves two purposes. First, it reduces search time to locate all inter-related information, and secondly, it can provide the researcher with insight into the subject coverage available within the system. The preparation of abstracts should be a continuing effort with priority being given to subjects of vital concern and in support of short range requirements. Then, as analysts investigate various other areas of interest, additional keywords and abstracts should be developed in order to support future efforts. A typical set of descriptive words which could be used in the preparation of abstracts are:

Bailout	Mail
Capture	Medical
Confinement	Mission
Diet	Mistreatment
Discipline	Propaganda
Escape	Punishment
Evasion	Recreation
Exercise	Release
Illness	Religion
Indoctrination	Rescue
Injuries	Shootdown
Interrogation	Threats
Isolation	

To be effective an index must be as all inclusive as possible. It must be cross-referenced to the maximum degree. The index should provide its user with the specific location of a particular element of information. The location should be detailed to the degree necessary to insure that the analyst does not have to lose time reading or listening to extraneous material. The use of a microfilm type of storage, recoverable through the use of a computer supported index, appears to be the most cost-effective means of

storing and retrieving the prisoner of war debriefing materials. This would require that all the material or at least selected portions of the audio tapes be converted into hard-copy documents.

#### c. Transcription of Debriefings

The creation of verbatim transcripts of the information collected on audio tape is a monumental task. However, it is a necessary step which must be accomplished if future analytical efforts are expected to profitably utilize the information gathered during the debriefing of the returnees. After the tapes have been transcribed, the transcription must also be edited to assure that they accurately represent what transpired during the debriefings. The editing function is extremely important if consideration is given to using keyword search techniques. The correction of spelling during the editing and conversions to standard terminology can greatly enhance recovery of data using keyword methods.

The conversion of audio tapes to the typewritten text should be accomplished on a Magnetic Tape Selectric Typewriter or other similar equipment which would permit ease of editing and a direct input into a computer. The data could then be mechanically searched to refine the thesaurus and develop as comprehensive an indexing system as deemed desirable. The conventions established for the Data Central for MTST tapes must be observed during the typing of the transcripts. These are already defined in the IBM Training Manual #1, titled, Magnetic Tape Selectric Typewriter. The hard-copy produced by the MTST would be used to create a microfilm library of all the material gathered during the debriefings. The final version of the indexing system should be keyed toward recovery of a specific microfilm chip, thereby eliminating the need for computer on-line storage, except for the index. It should be stressed that in its expanded form the index and abstracts should utilize as many keywords as necessary to assure as complete a coverage as possible of all the subject categories contained in the debriefing transcriptions.

APPENDIX C

CANDIDATE MICROFILM DOCUMENTATION LISTING

# APPENDIX C

## CANDIDATE MICROFILM DOCUMENTATION LISTING

<u>Document Name</u>	<u>Security Classification</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Format</u>
PACAF Index of PWs and MIAs SEA	SECRET	PACAF	8-1/2" x 11"
Prisoners and Missing in Southeast Asia (PMSEA)	SECRET	DIA	8" x 14"
Statistical Reports of U.S. Casualties in SEA Report Control DD COMP (U) 763 & 764	FOUO	MPRC/AF/IN	8" x 10"
NVN Personnel Associated with U.S. Prisoners of War DIA PUB AT-365-3-1-70-INT	SECRET	DIA	8-1/2" x 11"
Known PW Camps	SECRET	DIA	8-1/2" x 11"
OPERATION HOMECOMING Debriefers Guide	UNCL/FOUO	AF/IN	8" x 10"
OPERATION HOMECOMING Reporting Instructions	UNCL/FOUO	AF/IN	8" x 10"
Casualty Listings	UNCL/FOUO	MPRC	8" x 10"
OPERATION HOMECOMING Listings			
Biographic	SECRET	AF/IN	8" x 10"
Crew Member	SECRET	AF/IN	8" x 10"
PW/MIA Lists	SECRET	AF/IN	8" x 10"
Other	SECRET	AF/IN	8" x 10"
BRIGHTLIGHT Data Base Outputs	SECRET	MACV	10" x 14"

<u>Document Name</u>	<u>Security Classification</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Format</u>
BRIGHTLIGHT Systems Documentation	UNK	MACV	UNK
PW/MIA Records (Selected Material Only)			
DD1300	FOUO	MPRC	8" x 10"
Photograph (Pre-Capture)	UNCL	AF/IN	8" x 10"
Photograph (Post Capture)	FOUO	AF/IN	UNK
Foreign Broadcast Information Service (FBIS)	UNCL	JPRC AF/IN CIA	8" x 10"
Background Investigation for Biographic Data	FOUO SECRET	AF/IN	8" x 10"
Letters to NOK	FOUO	AF/IN	8" x 10"
Letters from NOK	FOUO	AF/IN	8" x 10"
Letters AF to NOK	FOUO	AF/IN	8" x 10"
Memos on PW/MIA	SECRET	AF/IN	8" x 10"
Interagency Prisoner of War Intelligence Committee (IPWIC)	FOUO SECRET	AF/IN	8" x 10"
IRs for Debriefings	SECRET	AF/IN	8" x 14"
Verbatim Transcripts of Debriefings	SECRET	AF/IN	8" x 14"
OPERATION HOMECOMING Plans	SECRET	Comd	8-1/2" x 11"
HQ USAF	SECRET	Comd	8-1/2" x 11"
CINC PAC	SECRET	Comd	8-1/2" x 11"
MACV	SECRET	Comd	8-1/2" x 11"
MACTHAI	SECRET	Comd	8-1/2" x 11"

<u>Document Name</u>	<u>Security Classification</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Format</u>
PACAF	SECRET	Comd	8-1/2" x 11"
EUCOM	SECRET	Comd	8-1/2" x 11"
USAFE	SECRET	Comd	8-1/2" x 11"
CONUS Hospitals	SECRET	Comd	8-1/2" x 11"
JCPCs	SECRET	Comd	8-1/2" x 11"
Unidentified U.S. PWs in SEA, DIA PUB AP-365-6-2-70-INT	SECRET	Comd	8-1/2" x 11"

This listing is intended to provide a baseline from which an all-inclusive microfilm library can be built. As new documents come into being and as other existing documentation relating to prisoners of war are recognized as being of historical value, they should be added to the overall file and indexed.



## APPENDIX D

### INCO, INC. OPERATION HOMECOMING SUPPORT

- o Training/Briefings
- o Computer Programs/Files
- o Pre-Release Computer Reports
- o Release Computer Reports
- o Post-Release Computer Reports
- o Post-Release and Research Support
- o Miscellaneous Support

# TRAINING/BRIEFINGS

<u>TITLE/FUNCTION</u>	<u>RECEIVING AGENCY</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
Debriefing Training Materials	USAP, USA	Formal training aids, view graphs, worksheets, and instructions for approximately 400 debriefer/students.
Formal Debriefing Training	Clark AFB, Philippines, Okinawa; PACAF; Guam, Fairchild AFB; Washington, D.C.; USAFE; and other CONUS facilities.	Formal training class for approximately 500 debriefer/students, AF and ARMY only; approximately 50 three-day training sessions.
Telephone Support	CONUS Bases; DIA; AIC Staff; INFPB.	Direct support prior to and during the POW release by answering questions and making to recommendations in several areas relating to debriefings, keypunching, and communications.
Homecoming Support Staff Briefings	State Department, AF CONUS Processing Facilities, DIA, and AFIN Joint Central Processing Centers (JCPC).	Briefings were prepared and presented to various elements of these staffs to familiarize them with the AF Debriefing procedures and reporting forms.
CINCPAC EGRESS RECAP Conference	DOD and all Service Representatives.	INCO, INC. representative was requested by AF Plans. Attended and contributed to the Intelligence working group.
USC EGRESS RECAP Conference (Wash., D.C.)	DOD and all Service Representatives.	INCO, INC. representative attended and presented first draft of reporting formats. Intelligence working group accepted and CINCPAC incorporated these formats into their EGRESS RECAP Plan.
Interagency Prisoner of War Intelligence Committee (IPWIC) Planning	DIA, All Services.	INCO, INC. assisted in IPWIC's refinement of reporting formats and planning for DOD management of Casualty Debriefings. Briefings and several meetings were attended.

<u>TITLE/FUNCTION</u>	<u>RECEIVING AGENCY</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
DIA, USN, USAF Staff Coordination/Orientation	DIA, USN, USAF	To familiarize staffs of the DIA, USN, and USAF HOMECOMING OPRs with the scope, operation, and reporting structure of the HOMECOMING data base. Second generation data file structure was completed under crash conditions approximately two weeks prior to the first release. Reporting priorities were also established during these discussions.
Transcription Orientation and Training (approximately 15 eight- hour sessions)	DIA and Military Services, Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps	Familiarize personnel with the general scope and operation of HOMECOMING and train them in the specific tasks required to transcribe message traffic into machine-useable form. Approximately 60 personnel were trained at locations in Ft. Belvoir, VA, Alexandria, VA, and New York City, NY.
Development of Transcription Manuals and Coding Forms	DIA, USAF	A Transcribers Handbook was produced to provide individual transcribers with a ready-reference guide to use in coding casualty data messages into machine-useable format. Approximately twenty forms were designed, refined, and used during Phases I, II, and III of HOMECOMING.
Transcription Technical Supervision	DIA and Military Services	Provided 24-hour technical representation and guidance to the military supervisors assigned to the transcription section in the HOMECOMING Intelligence Center. Conducted refinement of coding/transcribing procedures and liaison between DIA-USAF in the technical areas of HOMECOMING data files acquisition and maintenance.

<u>TITLE/FUNCTION</u>	<u>RECEIVING AGENCY</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
Key Punch Support Services Coordination and Orientation	DIA, USAF (Data Services Support Division)	Identify available Key Punch facilities and familiarize the support personnel with the general organizational and reporting structure of the ADP portion of HOMECOMING. Coordinated on coding sheet format suitability, potential problems, and expected volume and frequency of traffic. Developed test data to exercise the system and identify potential problem areas.
Hospital Staff Orientation and Coordination	USAF	Participation with AF/INFPB in orientation of HOMECOMING Project Officers and key support staff elements in manpower and physical facility requirements involved in the project. Extensive coordination with communications elements was conducted to determine host base capabilities in message center/AUTODIN areas.
USAF Flight Surgeon Orientation Coordination	USAF	Creation of a pre-release tabulation of injuries sustained by USAF PWs prior to and during captivity. Coordination on and confirmation of reporting priorities. Consolidation of separate source documents/reports into a central medical data file on all MIA/PWs.
Identification of Post-Release-- Psychological Effects on Long-Term Confinement	USAF	Assisted USAF Flight Surgeon's office in plans for using PW debriefing data to identify potential psychological problems arising from long-term confinement.
Andrews AFB Assistance	INFPB	Several visits and discussions were held with Andrews personnel to assist them in establishing adequate Keypunch Support for PW reporting.
Special Westover AFB Visit	Air Staff	LTC Peters requested an INCO representative to visit Westover and brief on debriefer reporting requirements and inspect facilities. This was provided.

<u>TITLE/FUNCTION</u>	<u>RECEIVING AGENCY</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
AUTODIN/Keypunch Exercise Package	INFPB and CONUS Hospital Bases.	A package to test the Keypunch and AUTODIN facilities and plans at each of the CONUS processing bases was prepared and sent to each base for testing. Results were documented.

COMPUTER PROGRAMS/FILES

<u>TITLE/FUNCTION</u>	<u>RECEIVING AGENCY</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
Primary PW File	Air Staff, and all Services, Researchers	Five versions of this data base have been developed since the initial contract. They are AF IOC, AF COC, DOD IOC, DOD COC, POST RELEASE Data Base.
DEREP COMMENTS File	Air Staff, DOD Researchers.	A Post-PW Release file that is logically part of the PW file. It contains all the comments reported during the detailed debriefs on DEREPA.
Supplementary OSD Casualty File	DOD, Air Staff	This file consisted of data on KIAs received from the OSD Casualty branch and was used for support of DOD Intelligence Analysts, Service Casualty Analysts, debriefing staffs.
DEREP Card File	INFPB	A back-up card file of all DEREPA received during the PW Release.
Casualty Card File	INFPB	A back-up card file of all casualty data reported during the debriefings from all services.
Verbatim File	INFPB	A magnetic tape file of MAJ Fred Thompson's verbatim transcript created using the MTST and DigiData 30.
Program File	INFPB	All programs for the PW data processing maintained on a Disk Load Module.
DOD NOK Data	All Services	Minimal NOK data was entered into the system in the short period of time just prior to the PW Release. This data was originally scheduled for implementation at a later date.

<u>TITLE/FUNCTION</u>	<u>RECEIVING AGENCY</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
Systems Revisions	INFPB	Necessary revisions required by new releases of OS and NIPS systems. Several occurrences during contract development and operation.
File Revision (New PMSEA)	INFPB	The PW Data Base was revised and a new PMSEA preprocessor and logic statements were written to accommodate a revised PMSEA file that makes up a significant part of the PW file.
AUTODIN Transmission Programs	INFPB	Requirements were established and programs written to prepare a magnetic tape to transmit data from the AFDSC to the CONUS bases.
Test BR-90	INFPB	The BR-90 at the AFDC was tested and evaluated for its possible use during the PW Release. It was not used.
Operational Testing	INFPB	Operation tests were prepared and conducted at each level of system development.
NIPS Testing	AF Data Services Center (AFDSC)	Shake down testing of NIPS at AF Data Services Center for support of PROJECT HOMECOMING. PROJECT HOMECOMING was the first user of NIPS at AFDSC and therefore many systems problems were encountered. This testing was accomplished during the early days of the PW Release.
Cataloging Procedures	AF Data Services Center	A test of OS Cataloging for data files retention was conducted. This cataloging is planned as a standard in place of the current reel number designation.
AF Crew Member Data	JCPC, CONUS Processing Centers, DIA, USAF Casualty Center	Key data from PACAF Intelligence Index of USAF Personnel MIA/PW in SEA. Periodically updated.

MISCELLANEOUS SUPPORT

<u>TITLE/FUNCTION</u>	<u>RECEIVING AGENCY</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
Purchase of Tape Recorders	INFPB	INCO, INC. purchased 50 additional tape recorders. These were requested and specified by INFPB.
Pickup and Delivery of Reports	DIA, INFPB	Several trips were made between DIA, the Pentagon, and the 7602d to pickup and deliver PW-related data.
XEROX Support	All Services	A Xerox 7000 was leased and INCO, INC. personnel Xerox-reduced a considerable number of output reports during and after the PW Release.
Keypunching	All Services	INCO, INC. provided a considerable amount of keypunching in various areas prior to, during, and after the PW Release.
Project Documentation	INFPB	Documentation of all aspects of the project were produced in the form of Project Memos and monthly Status Reports.
USAF Debriefing Handbook	JCPC, CONUS Processing Centers, one copy to each USAF Debriefing, Info copies to USA, USN, USMC, DIA	131-page guide for Debriefers and detailed instructions for the reporting and taping of Returnee Debriefing Data. Printed in approximately 500 copies.
ADP Annex to AF HOMECOMING PLAN (Draft)	INFPB	A draft copy of an ADP Annex to the AF EGRESS RECAP Plan was prepared and delivered to INFPB.
AF Reporting Forms and Worksheets	INFPB, DIA, Navy, Marines, Army, State Dept., CONUS Bases, Clark AFB, etc.	Message forms for debriefer completion and reporting. Several versions were produced and delivered over the duration of the contract.



**POST RELEASE AND  
RESEARCH SUPPORT**

<u>TITLE/FUNCTION</u>	<u>RECEIVING AGENCY</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
Post-Release Support	All Services	During the PW Release, INCO, INC. personnel averaged 12 to 14 hours a day, 7 days a week for approximately 8 weeks.
Pre-Release Data Base Clean-Up	INFPB	Many extra man-hours were devoted to cleaning up PHSEA data elements in the period of time between the announcement of a release and the actual release.
Lackland Support	AFINY	An INCO representative was sent to Lackland for two weeks to assist the debriefing team in any problems that might arise.
DEREP Maintenance/Special Reports	INFPB	After the release, several DEREPs were completed improperly where the debriefer did not do a thorough enough job. Several special reports were used for data that should have been reported in the DEREPs. This was entered into the computer also.
DEREP Refinement	INFPB	Recover data lost in transmissions from Hospitals and incorporate this data into the data base.
Special Time-Cuts of Confinement Chronology	AF, DIA, INFPB	Determine who was at which camp within a specific time frame. Used by Intelligence Analysts.
Post Release Data Validation	All Services	As soon as debriefing data was received, INCO, INC. Personnel began an around-the-clock data validation effort correcting obvious input errors in casualty as well as DEREP data. This included errors by debriefers, transcribers, analysts, and keypunchers. Much of this data was programmed.

<u>TITLE/FUNCTION</u>	<u>RECEIVING AGENCY</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
Development of a Summary File of Non-Returnee Casualty Data.	All Services, JCRC	Consolidate data on non-returnees and insure that death/burial information was as complete as possible.
Confinement Chronology Refinement	All Services, JCRC	Refined all available Confinement Chronology data to insure that all data received from returnees was complete and accurately entered into the data base.
No-Match Resolutions	All Services, DIA	Provide a listing of names entered into the system in a format that would permit DIA analysts to determine who the individuals named were. At times the system carried in excess of 500 No-Matches, of which all but about 200 have been resolved.
"Unknowns"	All Services, DIA	Provide a consolidated listing of information on personnel unidentified by name or nickname that have been seen or reported on by returnees. Listing used as a reference document by DIA.
Listing of Senior Ranking Officers (SROs)	USAF Division of Personnel	Determine the individuals who would be shutdown rank and date be considered the Senior Ranking Officer at each camp.
AF Surgeon General's Magnetic Tape	AFNG	Special magnetic tape containing selected DEREPs for the Surgeon General's use was produced.
Evaluation AF Medical Data on MIA/PWs	AF Surgeon General's Office	Assess data available for incorporation into data base. Results: resolved that data inadequate, incomplete, not feasible for manual input.
Analysis Debriefing Tape Transcription Effort	INM (COL Olsen)	18 Debriefing Tapes by USAF Returnee screened, transcribed, transcription edited to obtain time factors required to accomplish partial transcription.
Post Release Orientation	Air Staff, DIA, Navy	Many discussions and visits to and by these agencies were conducted to describe data in files and assist in research plans.

PRE-RELEASE COMPUTER REPORTS

<u>TITLE/FUNCTION</u>	<u>RECEIVING AGENCY</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
SEA PW/MIA List	DIA, AR, MC, NA, 7602d AIG, AFOC Duty Officer, CONUS Processing Hospitals	Produced in three different sequences: 1. DIA ID OF PW/MIA 2. NAME OF PW/MIA 3. SERVICE/NAME OF PW/MIA These reports were produced on a monthly basis prior to the release. These reports listed all individuals known to be missing or captured in SEA.
STATUS of PERSONNEL in SEA	DIA, 7602d AIG, All Service Casualty Branches	Produced in three different sequences: 1. DIA ID of PW/MIA 2. NAME of PW/MIA 3. SERVICE/NAME of PW/MIA These reports were produced just prior to the release and several times thereafter on an as-needed basis. These reports were similar to the SEA PW/MIA lists but contained additional information. These reports were also modified to list only AF personnel missing or captured in SEA.
PW/MIA CREW MEMBER LIST	DIA, AF CONUS Hospitals, JCPC, DIA	Sequenced by name of PW/MIA. Produced just prior to the release for use in casualty clarification, this report listed the name, status, DIA ID, and crew position of all crew members of AF personnel missing or captured in SEA. NOTE: Status changes of crew members is currently being kept up to date as received.
STATUS OF PERSONNEL	7602d AIG, DIA	Produced in two different sequences: 1. Country of Loss/Name 2. Country of Loss/Loss Date/Name Produced prior to the release. Used as aid in clarification of casualty messages.

<u>TITLE/FUNCTION</u>	<u>RECEIVING AGENCY</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
Unmatched Casualty Records from OSD File	DIA, CONUS Hospitals	Produced in three different sequences: 1. Name 2. Date of Incident 3. DIA ID  Produced prior to release. These reports listed individuals originally listed as MIA or PW whose status was later changed to KIA. Used in resolving casualty messages.
PW/MIA Next-of-Kin Report	AF Casualty Branch, AF CONUS Hospitals	Sequenced by Hospital/Status of PW/MIA/Name of PW/MIA. This report was produced monthly prior to the release. Used by CONUS Hospitals to plan for accommodations, etc., of next-of-kin.
PW/MIA Next-of-Kin Summary	AF Casualty Branch, AF CONUS Hospitals	This report listed the number of personnel assigned to each AF CONUS Hospital by status, e.g., MIA, PW. This report was produced in conjunction with the PW/MIA Next-of-Kin Report.
Shootdown Incident Report	7602d AIG, DIA	Sequenced by incident date. Produced just prior to the release. Contains data related to the loss of individuals, e.g., loss coordinates, type acft, type target, etc. Used in resolution of casualty messages.
Biographical Report	7602d AIG, JCRC	Sequenced by Name of PW/MIA. A comprehensive listing of biographic data on all PW/MIAs, including incident, next-of-kin, physical description, crew member.
US Navy Personnel	Navy Casualty Branch	Produced in two different sequences: 1. Primary Next-of-Kin Location 2. Secondary Next-of-Kin Location  Listed all US Navy personnel known to be captured and the location of next-of-kin. Used in planning for next-of-kin accommodations upon release.

<u>TITLE/FUNCTION</u>	<u>RECEIVING AGENCY</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
List of Nicknames (AF Only)	7602d AIG, DIA	Produced just prior to release, sequenced by nickname. Contained known nicknames of AF personnel missing or captured in SEA. Used in clarification of casualty messages.
Personnel to be Returned by NVN	7602d AIG, DIA, All Service Casualty Branches, AFOC Duty Officer	Produced in three different sequences: 1. Name 2. DIA ID 3. Service/Name These reports were produced prior to the releases on the day that the list of personnel to be returned was received from North Vietnamese representatives in Paris.
Personnel to be Returned from Laos	7602d AIG, DIA, all Service Casualty Branches, AFOC Duty Officer	Sequenced by Service/Name. This report listed the personnel to be returned from Laos. This report was produced on the day that the list was released by the North Vietnamese in Paris.
Personnel to be Returned From SEA	7602d AIG, DIA, All Service Casualty Branches, AFOC Duty Officer	Produced in three different sequences: 1. Name 2. DIA ID 3. Service/Name Produced prior to the releases, listing all personnel to be returned from SEA. This report was also produced, listing only AF personnel to be released.
AF Personnel to be Released	7602d AIG, AF Casualty Branch, AFOC Duty Officer	Sequenced by Incident Date. Listed all AF personnel to be released from SEA. Used in planning for accommodations of NOK at CONUS Hospitals.
Personnel Reported to be Returned	7602d AIG, DIA, Service Casu Branches, AFOC Duty Officer	Sequenced by Incident Date. Listed all personnel to be released from SEA. Used as an aid in predicting the rosters of the various release increments.

<u>TITLE/FUNCTION</u>	<u>RECEIVING AGENCY</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
AF PW/MIAs Not On The VS/VN/LA Lists	7602d AIG, AF Casualty Branch, AFOC Duty Officer	Sequenced by Name. A list of all personnel not listed by North Vietnam as to be returned.
Personnel in SEA Not Listed to be Returned	7602d AIG, DIA, Service Casualty Branches, AFOC Duty Officer	Sequenced by Name, listing all US personnel missing or captured in SEA not listed by North Vietnam as to be returned.
US Personnel Reported to be Deceased by NVN	7602d AIG, DIA, All Service Casualty Branches, AFOC Duty Officer	Produced in two sequences: 1. Name 2. Service/Name A list of all US personnel reported deceased by North Vietnam.
Hospital Assignments of Prisoners to be Returned from SEA	7602d AIG, DIA, All Services Casualty Branches, AFOC Duty Officer	Produced in two sequences: 1. Name 2. Hospital/Service/Name Produced prior to the releases, listing the CONUS Hospital assignments of the personnel to be re- turned from SEA.
Hospital Assignments of 1st 125 PWs on NVN List	7602d AIG, AFOC Duty Officer, All Service Casualty Branches	Sequenced by Incident Date. List of the first 125 US Personnel (by incident date) to be re- turned from SEA.
Hospital Assignment of the 2nd 126 PWs on NVN List	7602d AIG, AFOC Duty Officer, All Service Casualty Branches.	Sequenced by Incident Date. List of the next 126 US Personnel to be returned from SEA. (See previous report).
Statistical Data on All PW/MIAs	7602d AIG	Sequenced by Year/Status/Branch of Service. A list of the numbers of personnel lost in SEA in each year of the conflict by the individual's Status and Branch of Service.
Air Force MIA in Laos	7602d AIG	Sequenced by Name. A listing produced prior to the release of the Laos List, of all Air Force MIAs in Laos.

TITLE/FUNCTION

DIA Analyst Reports

RECEIVING AGENCY

DIA, 7602d AIG

DESCRIPTION

Produced in 9 different sequences:

1. Last Name
2. First Name
3. Middle Name
4. Date of Incident
5. Vehicle/Aircraft
6. Height
7. Weight
8. Hair Color
9. Date of Birth

These reports were produced just prior to the release to be used as aids in identifying reported non-returnees.

Several special reports on PMSEA data elements were produced so DIA could have their analysts review and correct the data. It was much easier for us to produce these since the DIA system (DIAOCS) did not have the facility.

DIA Clean-up Reports/Support

DIA

# RELEASE COMPUTER REPORTS

<u>TITLE/FUNCTION</u>	<u>RECEIVING AGENCY</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
Message Log	DIA, Transcribers, Navy Intelligence	Produced in two different sequences: 1. DIA ID of Returnee 2. DIA ID of Non-Returnee These reports were produced twice a week during the releases and on an as-requested basis thereafter. The message logs were used to locate casualty messages for later reference.
Recovered Prisoners of War	7602d AIG, DIA, All Service Casualty Branches, AFOC Duty Officer, CONUS Hospitals	Produced in three sequences: 1. Name 2. Service/Name 3. DIA ID This report was produced for each release on the day of release listing US personnel released in the respective increment of release. This report was also produced listing only AF personnel released.
Hospital Assignment-Recovered Prisoners of War	7602d AIG, DIA, All Service Casualty Branches, AFOC Duty Officer	Sequenced by Hospital/Service/Name. This report was produced for each release increment on the day of that release listing the hospital assignments of those personnel released in the respective increment of release.
Recovered Prisoners of War	7602d AIG, DIA, AFOC Duty Officer	Sequenced by Service within Release Increment. A wrapup of all the release increments produced after the last release increment.
PWs Returned from SEA Since 12 Feb 1973	7602d AIG, DIA, AFOC Duty Officer, All Service Casualty Divisions	Produced in three different sequences: 1. Name 2. Service/Name 3. DIA ID These reports were produced after each release increment listing all recovered PWs to date.



<u>TITLE/FUNCTION</u>	<u>RECEIVING AGENCY</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
Hospital Assignment Recovered PWs (cumulative)	7602d AIG, AFOC Duty Officer	Sequenced by Hospital/Service/Name. This report was produced after each release increment, listing all recovered PWs to date by their hospital assignment.
PWs to be Returned After First Release	7602d AIG, AFOC Duty Officer, DIA, Service Casualty Division	Sequenced by Incident - a listing of all PW's to be returned, but not yet returned. Produced after the first release.
Assessment Report	7602d AIG, AF Conus Hospitals	Sequenced by DIA ID. This report was produced for each release. The report contained an assessment of each AF returnee as made by the debriefers at the JCPC. This report was sent to the AF CONUS Hospitals via AUTODIN.
No-Match Feedback	DIA, 7602d AIG, AF CONUS Hospitals	Sequenced by DIA ID. These reports were sent via AUTODIN to the AF CONUS Hospitals for each release increment. The report was used for clarification of No-Match non-returnees reported.
Unknown Feedback	DIA, 7602d AIG, AF CONUS Hospitals	Sequenced by DIA ID. These reports were sent via AUTODIN to the AF CONUS Hospitals for each release increment. The report was used for clarification of Unknown non-returnees reported.
Non-Returnee, Name Known	DIA, 7602d AIG, Service Casualty Divisions, AFOC Duty Officer	Sequenced by DIA ID. This report was produced daily during the first three releases. The report was replaced by a Non-Returnee Report, Name Known (with comments) after the third release. This report listed all the non-returnees, status, condition, etc., reported by each returnee.
Non-Returnee, Name Known (w/comments)	DIA, 7602d AIG, Service Casualty Divisions, AFOC Duty Officer	Sequenced by DIA ID. This report was produced twice weekly during the releases and weekly for several weeks after the last release. This report listed all the non-returnees, status, conditions, and detailed comments reported by each returnee.

<u>TITLE/FUNCTION</u>	<u>RECEIVING AGENCY</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
Non-Returnee, Unknown	DIA, 7602d AIG, Service Casualty Divisions, AFOC Duty Officer	Sequenced by DIA ID. This report was produced daily during the first two releases subsequently replaced by the Unknown w/comments. The report lists all Unknown non-returnees reported by each returnee.
Non-Returnee, Unknown (w/comments)	DIA, 7602d AIG, Service Casualty Divisions, AFOC Duty Officer	Sequenced by DIA ID. This report was produced twice weekly during the releases, weekly for several weeks after the releases and on an as-needed basis thereafter. The report lists all Unknown non-returnees and detailed comments reported by each returnee.
Non-Returnee, No-Match	DIA, 7602d AIG, Service Casualty Divisions, AFOC Duty Officer	Sequenced by DIA ID. This report was produced daily during the first two releases and was replaced by the No-Match w/comments. The report lists all No-Match non-returnees reported by each returnee.
Non-Returnee, No-Match (w/comments)	DIA, 7602d AIG, Service Casualty Divisions, AFOC Duty Officer	Sequenced by DIA ID. This report was produced weekly during the releases, weekly for several weeks after the releases and on an as-needed basis thereafter. The report lists all No-Match non-returnees and detailed comments reported by each returnee.
Summary of All Non-Returnees Reported and Candidate DIA Identifier	DIA, 7602d AIG, Service Casualty Divisions	Sequenced by DIA ID. These reports were produced for each service on a weekly basis during the releases and for several weeks thereafter. Each service received all data reported on all non-returnee personnel of the respective service.
Confinement Chronology Summary	7602d AIG, DIA, Service Casualty Divisions, AFOC Duty Officer	Sequenced by camp/name/date of confinement. This report was produced daily for the first two releases and twice weekly thereafter. This report listed occupants of the various PW camps in SEA by date of confinement.

<u>TITLE/FUNCTION</u>	<u>RECEIVING AGENCY</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
Confinement Chronology (cont.)		Note: This report format was used to produce various special listings requested by DIA and 7602d AIG concerning specific camps during specific time periods.
Unidentified Pictures of PWs	7602d AIG, DIA, Service Casualty Divisions	Sequenced by photo identification number. This report was produced bi-weekly after the third release until several weeks after the last release. The report identifies Unknown PW photographs.
Non-Returnee Photo ID Verification, Name Known	7602d AIG, DIA	Sequenced by photo identification number. This report was produced bi-weekly after the third release until several weeks after the last release. The report verifies the identification of Non-Returnees reported by each returnee.
Non-Returnee Photo ID Verification No-Match	7602d AIG, DIA	Sequenced by photo identification number. This report was produced bi-weekly after the third release until several weeks after the last release. The report clarifies the identification of previously reported No-Match non-returnees.
Non-Returnee Photo ID Verification, Unknown	7602d AIG, DIA	Sequenced by photo identification number. This report was produced bi-weekly after the third release until several weeks after the last release. The report clarifies the identification of previously reported Unknown non-returnees.
Roster of Returnees and Debriefers	7602d AIG	Produced in two different sequences: 1. Name of Returnee 2. Name of Debriefers Lists of all AF Returnees, their CONUS Hospital Debriefers, and CONUS Hospital Debriefing site.

<u>TITLE/FUNCTION</u>	<u>RECEIVING AGENCY</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
Cleanup Reports		Listings of the various periodic sets on the file that contain comments or other pertinent data. Used during and after the releases to make changes, additions, and deletions to the data base as needed.
Home of Record	7602d AIG, JCRC	A listing of all non-returnees and their "home of record".

POST RELEASE COMPUTER REPORTS

<u>TITLE/FUNCTION</u>	<u>RECEIVING AGENCY</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
Loss/Capture Summary	7602d AIG, DIA, JCRC	Sequenced by Name. Produced on an as-needed basis. The report lists loss and capture coordinates of recovered PWs. To be used as aid in locating remains of not returned crew members.
Confinement Chronology	7602d AID, DIA, Service Casualty Branches, OSI	Sequenced by DIA ID. (Soon to be sequenced by name). This report is being produced on an as-needed basis. This report contains the complete confinement history of all returnees with detailed comments.
Death/Burial, Name Known	7602d AIG	Sequenced by DIA ID of non-returnee. This report lists all data reported on non-returnees. This report was used as the major source of the Casualty Resolution Report, described below.
Death/Burial, Unknowns and No-Matches	7602d AIG, DIA, JCRC	Sequenced by DIA ID of returnee. This report lists all data reported on unknown and no-matches by returnees. Used as an aid in casualty classification and body recovery.
Casualty Resolution Report	7602d AIG, DIA, JCRC, Service Casualty Branches	Sequenced by DIA ID of non-returnee. This report contains a summary of all first hand information regarding non-returnees as reported by returnees. Contains data concerning death and burial coordinates, etc.
Shootdown/Capture DEREPS	7602d AIG, DIA, JCRC, HQ USAF Rescue Service	Sequenced by DIA ID of returnee. This report, as all DEREPS, contains data related to AF returnees and a few civilians processed at AF hospitals. This report has been produced on an as-needed basis and contains all data relevant to Shootdown and Capture of AF returnees including evaluations

<u>TITLE/FUNCTION</u>	<u>RECEIVING AGENCY</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
Shootdown/Capture (cont.)		of cause of shootdown, E & E, survival training, etc.
Shootdown/Capture Summaries	7602d AIG, DIA, HQ USAF Rescue Service	<p>This report is produced in five different sequences:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Shootdown Injury</li> <li>2. Reason for Loss of Aircraft</li> <li>3. Type of Target</li> <li>4. Type of Mission</li> <li>5. Type of Aircraft</li> </ol> <p>Used for compiling statistical data related to Shootdown/Capture incident.</p>
Validity of Propaganda DERE	7602d AIG, AF Judge Advocate	Sequenced by DIA ID of returnee. Produced on an as-needed basis. This report contains data related to NVN attempts to use AF PWs in propaganda activities.
Validity of Propaganda Summaries	7602d AIG, AF Judge Advocate	<p>Produced in two different sequences:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Type of Propaganda</li> <li>2. Name of Returnee</li> </ol> <p>Used as a guide or index to the Validity of Propaganda DERE.</p>
Captivity Medical Treatment DERE	7602d AIG, AF Surgeon, DIA	Sequenced by DIA ID of returnee. Produced on an as-requested basis. The report contains all reported instances of medical treatment (or lack of) during confinement in SEA of AF returnees.
Captivity Medical Treatment Summaries	7602d AIG, AF Surgeon	<p>Produced in three different sequences:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Name of Returnee</li> <li>2. Type Illness/Injury</li> <li>3. Symptoms/Cause</li> </ol> <p>Used as a guide or index to the Captivity Medical Treatment DERE.</p>
Enemy Intelligence Activity DERE	7602d AIG, DIA	Sequenced by DIA ID of returnee. Produced on an as-requested basis. The report contains all reported instances of enemy intelligence gathering activities as related to AF returnees.

<u>TITLE/FUNCTION</u>	<u>RECEIVING AGENCY</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
Enemy Intelligence Activity Summaries	7602d AIG, DIA	Produced in three different sequences: 1. Identification of Enemy Personnel 2. Type of Activity 3. Name of Returnee
Enemy Personnel DEREK	7602d AIG, DIA	Sequenced by DIA ID of returnee. Produced on an as-requested basis. This report contains all data reported on the various enemy personnel encountered by AF returnees. NOTE: Due to the voluminous nature of this report, the report is produced on a selective basis. That is, enemy personnel are selected out by nickname on an individual basis or enemy personnel are selected by returnee reporting them, rather than just printing out all data reported on all enemy personnel by all AF returnees.
Enemy Personnel Summary	7602d AIG, DIA	Produced in three sequences: 1. Name of returnee 2. Nickname of Enemy Personnel 3. DIA Photo Reference Used as a guide or index to the Enemy Personnel DEREK.
Mistreatment DEREK	7602d AIG, DIA	Sequenced by DIA ID of returnee. Produced on an as-requested basis. This report contains data on instances of mistreatment of US personnel at the hands of their captors in SEA as reported by AF returnees.
Mistreatment Summaries	7602d AIG, DIA	Produced in four different sequences: 1. Name of returnee 2. Mistreated person 3. Type mistreatment 4. Inflict Used as a guide or index to the Mistreatment DEREK.

<u>TITLE/FUNCTION</u>	<u>RECEIVING AGENCY</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
Consolidated DEREP Summary	7602d AIG	Sequenced by Name of Returnee/date of event. Contains selective data concerning Validity of Propaganda, Mistreatment and Enemy Intelli- gence Activity.
Shootdown Cause	7602d AIG	A brief listing of the cause of shootdown of all AF returnees.
Status by Crew Position/ Type Aircraft	7602d AIG	Produced in three sequences: 1. Type aircraft/crew position/incident date 2. Crew position/status/incident date 3. Crew position/incident date An analysis of non-returnees by their crew position.
Aircraft Tail Number	7602d AIG, JCRC	A listing of all AF PW/MIAs and their aircraft tail number.



**APPENDIX E**

**ABBREVIATIONS**

## ABBREVIATIONS

ACS/I	- Assistant Chief of Staff/Intelligence
ADP	- Automated Data Processing
AFIS	- Air Force Intelligence Service
AFOC	- Air Force Operations Center
AUTODIN	- Automatic Digital Network
CBPO	- Consolidated Base Personnel Office
CIA	- Central Intelligence Agency
CONUS	- Continental United States
DAS	- Defense Attache System
DCA	- Defense Communications Agency
DEREPS	- Debriefing Reports
DIA	- Defense Intelligence Agency
DIA ID NO	- Defense Intelligence Agency Identification Number
DMA	- Defense Mapping Agency
DOD	- Department of Defense
DTS	- Debriefing Team Supervisor
E & E	- Escape and Evasion
EGRESS RECAP	- Processing of Returned USAF Prisoners of War and Other Detained USAF Personnel
FAG	- Field Activity Group
FBI	- Federal Bureau of Investigation
FTD	- Foreign Technology Division, AFSC
GDIP	- General Defense Intelligence Program
HOI	- Headquarters Office Instruction (Air Force)
HOMIC	- HOMECOMING Intelligence Center
ICP	- Intelligence Collection Plan
IOI	- Item of Interest
IPIR	- Immediate Photo Interpretation Report
IPWIC	- Interagency Prisoner of War Intelligence Committee
IRSF	- Intelligence Report Statistics File
IR	- Intelligence Information Report
JCPC	- Joint Central Processing Center
JCRC	- Joint Casualty Resolution Center
MIA	- Missing in Action

NIPS - National Information Processing System  
NOK - Next of Kin  
NSA - National Security Agency  
  
OPDTA - Operational Data File  
OPR - Office of Primary Responsibility  
OR - Opinion Request  
OSI - Office of Special Investigation  
  
PACAF - Pacific Air Forces  
PCAM - Punch Card Accounting Machine  
PMSEA - Prisoners/Missing Southeast Asia  
POW - Prisoner of War  
PW - Prisoner of War  
  
RADC - Rome Air Development Center  
RECID - A DIA Recognition Identification Number assigned to each PW and MIA  
  
SEA - Southeast Asia  
SICR - Specific Intelligence Collection Requirement  
SITREP - Situation Report  
  
TTY - Teletype  
  
USIA - United States Information Agency  
  
WWMCCS - World Wide Military Command and Control System